

Iraqi warplanes hit third naval target in 3 days

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said its warplanes hit a "large naval target" in the Gulf Saturday, the third such claim in three days.

A military spokesman said the jets scored an "accurate and effective hit" on their target at 1:30 a.m. (2130 GMT Friday night) and all returned safely to base. He gave no further details.

There was no immediate confirmation of any attack on shipping Saturday from independent shipping sources elsewhere in the Gulf.

The last confirmed Iraqi attack was a week ago, when the Cypriot-flag supertanker W. Enterprise was badly damaged in an Iraqi missile strike south of Iran's Kharg Island off terminal after loading 2.5 million barrels of Iranian crude oil.

Meanwhile, Iraq's ambassador to the U.S., Nizar Hamdoun, said Iraq would like the United States to do more to help bring an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

At a press conference on May 29, the Iraqi ambassador said the U.S. position on the Iran-Iraq war is "generally good," but more efforts are needed based on the United States' role as a superpower. Mr. Hamdoun said "less more pressure is put on Iran, Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader, would continue the war indefinitely."

The ambassador said Iraq is already putting pressure on Iran by adopting a new strategy he called "active defence." After last February's capture of Fao by Iranian

Saudi Arabia because it would send a signal to Khomeini that the United States is concerned about the security of Saudi Arabia.

In reply to another question, Mr. Hamdoun said a trade delegation led by Iraq's Trade Minister, Hassan Ali, will be visiting Washington "in the next couple of months" to sign the final version of a U.S.-Iraq trade agreement that is now under review by both governments. A similar U.S. trade delegation sponsored by the United States-Iraq Business Forum, a private group of American companies interested in doing business in Iraq, has just returned from Baghdad.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei charged Friday that the United States wanted the Gulf war prolonged. But Iran will continue the war till victory, he added. It was reported by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA).

"We will not allow U.S. policies to be implemented, we will not allow the war to be continued in the form desired by the oppressors," the agency which is monitored here, quoted Mr. Khamenei as saying.

Iran's frequently reiterated policy is that the war cannot end before the overthrow of Iraqi government.

IRNA said the Iranian leader was addressing a congregation of hundreds of thousands attending the weekly open-air Friday prayer meeting on the campus of Tehran University.

Kurdish rebels still a problem for Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's problem with its Kurdish minority has been brought into focus again with the brief capture of a strategic northern town by rebels who Baghdad said were led by a former government supporter.

Autonomy-seeking Kurds have been a headache to successive governments in Baghdad and, since the start of the Gulf war in 1980, Iranian-backed rebels have harassed Iraqi forces in mountainous Kurdistan.

Kurdish tribal chief Jaafar Besefti led a revolt this month in the town of Mungesh, which he had formerly controlled with Baghdad's support, and held it for three days, a ruling Baath Party official told reporters in the town.

The official, Mohammad Hamza, linked Besefti with Iranian-backed Kurdish rebel leader Masoud Barzani and branded him a troublemaker who "kept refusing to send his men to fight on the Gulf war front."

Mr. Hamza said Mungesh, a town of more than 2,000 people about 40 kilometres south of the Turkish border, was retaken by troops and loyal Kurds. He said no Barzani fighters had entered the town and that Besefti had been detained.

In Iran, a spokesman for Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) said its fighters held Mungesh for 10 days before withdrawing on May 24, with some local officials, in order to avoid civilian losses.

The mainly-Christian town, about 1,000 metres above sea level, is in terrain unsuited to conventional warfare.

It is only 50 kilometres from Iraq's main oil export pipeline and on a main road used to bring goods into Iraq from Turkey. Tankers also use the road to take oil to Turkey.

During the Gulf war, both sides have used Kurds in enemy territory to harass authorities.

After Iran captured Karamand Mountain overlooking the Haj Omran Valley in north east Iraq in 1983, an Iraqi army commander accused "guides of treason" — Kurdish rebels — of leading enemy forces to the area.

Iraq said recently its forces, backed by loyal Kurds, had retaken the peak.

Iraq has denied a KDP claim that Iranian-backed Kurdish guerrillas control 12,000 square kilometres of northern Iraq from the Iranian to the Syrian borders.

Barzani is the son of the Mulla Mustafa Barzani who led Iraq's estimated three million Kurds — about 15 per cent of the country's total population — in a struggle for autonomy over four decades. He died in exile in America in 1979.

When Mulla Mustafa Barzani's rebellion failed, thousands of his followers fled to Iran, which under spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, went to war with Iraq in 1980.

Later, Baghdad formed paramilitary "light battalions" with Kurds traditionally opposed to Barzani followers.

JANA says Soviets have pledged arms for Libya

NICOSIA (AP) — The Soviet Union has agreed to provide Libya with arms to enable it to "confront threats of aggression," Libya's official news agency, JANA, reported Saturday.

JANA, monitored here, carried the Arabic text of a joint communique issued in Tripoli and Moscow on Libyan number two Major Abdul Salam Jalloud's talks in Moscow earlier this week.

Maj. Jalloud left Moscow Friday after four days of talks, including a meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Soviet Defence Minister Marshal Sergei L. Sokolov.

The communique said a high-level Soviet delegation was expected in Tripoli during the first half of June to study Libya's defence needs.

The Soviet Union and Libya condemned "America's attempts to achieve military superiority through accelerating the arms race and interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign countries under the pretext of fighting international terrorism."

The two sides termed as "illegal" restrictions imposed by European countries on Libyan people's bureaux (embassies), adding that the measures were "incompatible with the principles of peaceful cooperation and cordial relations among countries."

Libya and the Soviet Union also condemned sanctions taken against Libya at the Tokyo summit of industrialised countries earlier this month.

The two countries also condemned "the U.S. Sixth Fleet's continuing manoeuvres in the Gulf of Sirte and near the Libyan shores."

"In this context, Libya supported a Soviet proposal for the withdrawal of both the U.S. and Soviet fleets from the Mediterranean," the communique said.

It added that Mr. Gorbachev accepted an invitation to visit Libya. It mentioned no date for the visit.

Dr. Waldheim was quoted on Friday as saying he backed Arab rights while U.N. secretary-general and this had angered Israel.

"I don't deny that throughout my term as head of the international body I supported Arabs' rights and this angered the Israelis," he was quoted as telling the Beirut weekly Al Ousbou Al Arabi in a Vienna interview.

"I always say that the Israelis should have internationally acknowledged borders and the Palestinians a home," he was quoted as saying.

Abe urges Soviets to negotiate

(Continued from page 1)

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Deputy Press Secretary Edward Djerejian was answering reporters' questions over a statement by the head of the Soviet Novosti news agency that there was little prospect for a summit this year.

Israeli attorney general may soon be replaced, Modai says

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's attorney general, who has demanded a probe into a case where Israelis beat two Palestinians to death, may soon be replaced, Justice Minister Yitzhak Modai said Saturday.

Mr. Modai said he had a replacement for Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir whose order to investigate charges that security officers killed two Palestinians captured in a 1984 hijacking has met with strong government resistance.

Mr. Zamir, who ordered police to investigate Shin Bet (internal security service) chief Avraham Shalom's role in the killings, tendered his resignation three months ago.

"There is no reason to keep the attorney general in this turmoil after he announced his resignation," Mr. Modai said on state radio.

An Israeli woman soldier and four Palestinians were killed after soldiers stormed the hijacked bus in the Gaza Strip. It was later reported that two of the Palestinians had been captured and beaten to death by the Israelis.

Zamir's decision to investigate

Israel's most sensitive organisation has led to an intense debate over whether the government has a right to intervene in the judicial process in the name of national security.

Israeli leaders have said the investigation proposed by Mr. Zamir could jeopardise national security and the country's ability to fight "terrorism."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has called on Mr. Zamir to cancel the probe order because he said it was based on charges by three informants in Shin Bet without balancing testimony from Shalom.

Israeli press reports have said that Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Minister Moshe Arens, prime minister and defence minister at the time of the killings, knew about the allegations. Labour Minister Ezer Weizman has accused Mr. Shamir of responsibility for the deaths. Both ministers have denied the allegations.

The investigation ordered by Mr. Zamir is scheduled to begin next week when police commissioner David Kraus returns to Israel.

Waldheim predicts end to campaign

(Continued from page 1)

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Cranston urges rejection of Saudi deal as administration grows more confident

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Senator Alan Cranston said Saturday a Reagan request for \$354 million in arms for Saudi Arabia should be rejected because of what he described as the Saudis' "support terrorism" and opposition to peace efforts in the Middle East.

Both the Senate and House of Representatives voted in May to block the sale of Sidewinder air-to-air missiles and other weapons to Saudi Arabia but Mr. Reagan vetoed the resolution.

A two-thirds vote of both the House and Senate is needed to override President Reagan's veto and stop the arms sale with a Senate vote scheduled on June 5.

"The Saudis rejected the Reagan (Middle East) peace plan. They remain committed to Jihad, or 'holy war' against our ally, Israel," Sen. Cranston kayed in comments prepared for a nationwide radio broadcast in response to Mr. Reagan's weekly radio address.

Sen. Cranston is one of the leaders of efforts to block the Saudi arms sale. The California senator, who is a strong supporter of Israel, said Saudi Arabia gave money to countries like Syria and Libya and groups like the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) which he claimed were behind "terrorist acts."

"Yet the Saudis bankroll Syria and the PLO. And the Saudis have

continually stood with (Libyan leader Muammar) Qadhafi and against the United States," Sen. Cranston said.

Mr. Reagan removed shoulder-held Stinger anti-aircraft missiles from the Saudi arms sale because of concerns by many members of the Congress that the missiles might fall into the hands of guerrillas.

"Congress is fed up with Third World dictators and potentates who thwart vital American national interests — and then expect speed and unimpeded delivery of our most advanced military weapons," Sen. Cranston said.

"We've provided Saudi Arabia with \$50 billion worth of American arms — more than to any nation on earth. It's high time we told the Saudis that friendship is a two-way street," he said.

Mr. Reagan, in his veto message to Congress, said blocking the arms sale to Saudi Arabia would damage U.S. strategic, political and economic interests in the Middle East and undermine American policy in the region.

"Behind the scenes, the Saudis have aided the effort to combat terrorism," Mr. Reagan said. "Recently, they refused Col. Qadhafi's requests for aid."

Mr. Reagan said the arms sale would not jeopardise Israel's security and noted Israel did not oppose the deal.

Earlier, the Washington Post

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel. 773111-19

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RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & party on 95.60 KHz, SW Tel. 774111-19

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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS
"Caricatures from the Federal Republic of Germany at the Goethe Institute (until June 5)
A panoramic exhibition of the French song at the French Cultural Centre (until June 4).

CIRCUS
Romanian Circus daily at Al Hussein Sports City.

CULTURAL CENTRES
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre Tel. 644371
British Council Tel. 6361478
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009
Goethe Institute Tel. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 642003
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 661950
Hittite Youth City Tel. 6671816
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 664251
American Municipal Library Tel. 637111
University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555

CHURCHES
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Lawelwadeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, Tel. 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, Tel. 623451.
Anglican Church (Church of the Resurrection) Jabel Amman, Tel. 678906.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 772261.
St. Epiphane Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.
Armenian

CSC issues report on its activities

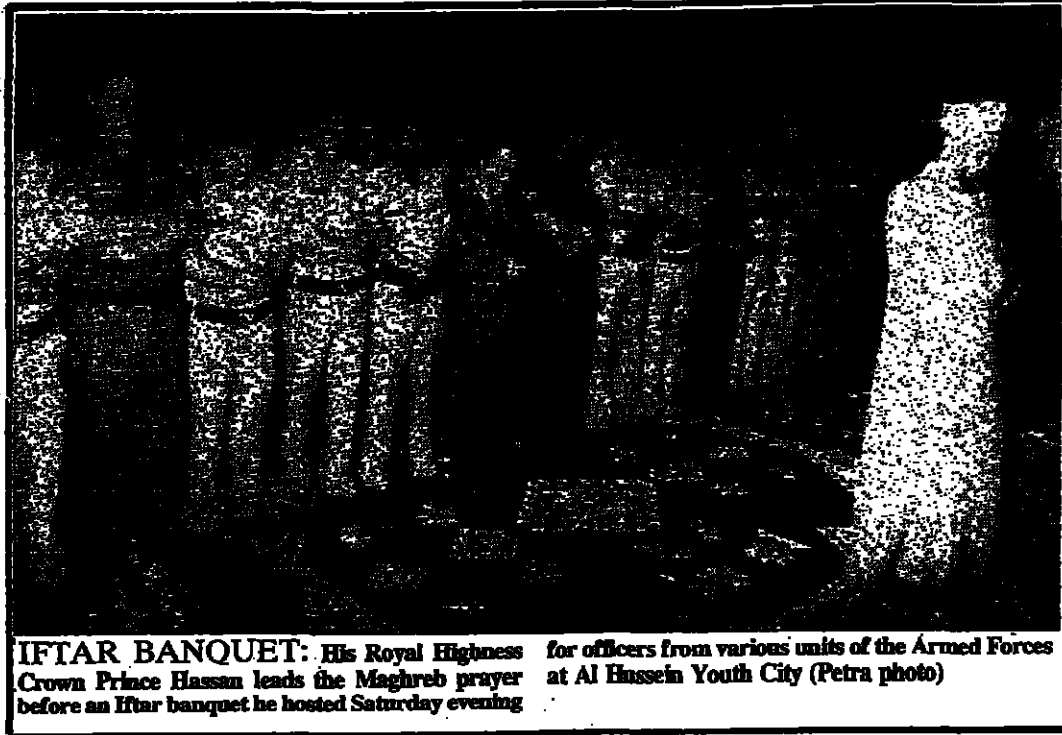
AMMAN (J.T.) — The Civil Service Commission (CSC) has received thousands of applications which have been submitted by people seeking employment in government offices, ranging from those holding tawjihi certificates to those with doctorate degrees, according to a report on the commission's operations and plans for the 1986-1990 five-year plan.

However, the report said that an official circular, issued by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, on the criteria for selecting people to fill government jobs is being strictly followed. According to the circular, any job should be filled in close cooperation between the CSC and the office in question and priority is given to those who applied at an earlier time providing they are qualified for the job.

The CSC, assisted by 90 highly skilled specialists from its own staff, is helping to develop administration in all government departments, especially in planning and organisation, the report continued. Approximately JD 200,000 was allocated for spending on these two sectors during 1985, 25 per cent more than the previous year, the report pointed out.

In 1985, it said that the total number of government jobs was 77,785 but that this is likely to increase within the period of the new five year plan and therefore more planning for introducing improvements and better organisation has become necessary.

Also, the report said members of CSC specialists deal with such matters as training courses for government employees and civil servants in Jordan and abroad and that this scheme was launched in 1982. In 1985 a total of 247 employees took part in such courses and many others attended seminars and briefings on organisational matters, the report said.



IFTAR BANQUET: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan leads the Maghreb prayer before an iftar banquet he hosted Saturday evening for officers from various units of the Armed Forces at Al Hussein Youth City (Petra photo)

JMC reports further Israeli measures to restrict Arab medical services

AMMAN (J.T.) — A report prepared by the Jordan Medical Council (JMC) has said that the Israeli authorities are taking steps designed to freeze medical services provided to the Arab inhabitants in the occupied Arab territories.

The report, published Saturday in the local press, said that all requests made by Arab hospitals for purchasing modern equipment are being refused and that no new hospitals are being set up to offer medical treatment to some 1.35 million Arab inhabitants.

According to the JMC report, the total number of beds in the 26 existing Arab hospitals in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is 2,166, nearly 1.9 for every 1,000 Arabs. In comparison, the Israelis have 148 hospitals with a total number of 26,754 beds, nearly 6.9 beds for every 1,000 Israelis living in the area, the report pointed out.

Hospital beds
An Israeli committee, in charge

of plans for the occupied territories, has decided that no more than 30 beds may be added to the existing hospitals in Arab regions from now until the year 2000, the report added.

These measures, the report continued, are designed to force the Arab inhabitants to become totally dependent on Israeli medical services and hospitals and will make the Arabs totally helpless and unable to resist any Israeli measures. The report also refers to Israel's attempts to weaken existing Arab hospitals and cites a hospital in occupied Jericho where the orthopaedic section has been closed down although it used to serve 25,000 inhabitants in the region.

It said that the charitable and philanthropic societies in the Arab territories have been trying hard to make up for the shortages and have been trying to build integrated clinics but have been confronted with Israel's counter measures.

Shortage of drugs

But, according to the report, the biggest problem now facing the Arab medical institutions is the shortage of drugs, especially medication for people with heart conditions, diabetes and high blood pressure. All Arab hospitals are in dire need of these drugs and cannot cope with the demand, the report said.

At present there are 635 physicians in the occupied territories, of whom 120 are specialists, and an additional 120 are without jobs, it added.

Government amends Labour Law to control foreign workers

Haj Hassan announces tougher penalties, rise in fees for work permits

By Salameh Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government has taken further steps to curb the influx of non-Jordanian workers and to control the Kingdom's labour market with the introduction of new amendments to the Labour Law.

The amendments, effective today, were announced by Labour Minister Khaled Haj Hassan who said they were aimed at "achieving full control over foreign labour and providing job opportunities to Jordanian citizens."

Speaking at a press conference, Mr. Haj Hassan told reporters that the ministry has made important amendments to article 12 and 13 of the Labour Law.

Under article 12, employers were to provide the ministry with an annual report about the nature of their business, the place of work, the number of workers, their nationalities, jobs, salaries and the date of job commencement. The article requires employers to keep files on workers, including those under training. All these files should include information defined and specified by the minister of labour.

Higher fines

"To guarantee the adherence to this amendment, article 12 stipulates, for the first time, that the employer will incur a fine of no less than JD 100 and no more than

JD 300 for each violation," Mr. Haj Hassan said in a four-page statement he read to the press conference.

The second amendment was made on item 7 of article 13 which requires employers not to employ non-Jordanians other than those with expertise and know-how that is not available or if there is no comparable Jordanian worker or when the number of Jordanians in the particular field is not sufficient for the concerned business or project. The article said that priority should be given to Arab experts, technicians and workers as opposed to non-Arabs.

This article also commits employers to obtain prior approval from the Ministry of Labour before any foreign workers are brought to work in the Kingdom, regardless of their profession. It also stipulated that non-Jordanian workers should obtain a work permit from the ministry before beginning work. The permit is valid for one year.

In accordance with the amendment to article 13, the ministry will charge a JD 30 fee from Arab workers with the exception of

those working in the agricultural sector who are charged JD 10 for their work permits.

Non-Arab workers

Non-Arab workers will now have to pay between JD 50 and JD 150 depending on their category. Workers in the first category, who will have to pay JD 50 for each permit, include agricultural labourers, house maids and garbage collectors. The minister defined the second category as that including administrative managers, engineers, medical doctors, pharmacists, consultants, technical and administrative experts. This category of workers will be charged JD 150 for each work permit. The third category includes those not mentioned in the first two categories and workers in this group will be charged JD 100 for their permits.

Mr. Haj Hassan said employers would have to pay a fine of JD 50 to JD 75 for each month or part of a month that a worker is employed without a work permit. Employers would also have to pay the same fines if a worker was employed in a job he is not authorised to hold or if he is taking a job which could be filled by a Jordanian. Mr. Haj Hassan said the employer is responsible for the expenses resulting from the deportation of violators.

The minister called on employers in Jordan to cooperate with the ministry in order that it might achieve its aim of controlling the

labour market in the Kingdom.

Data on foreign labour

He said that employment offices and inspectors responsible for foreign workers have been supplied with new forms to be filled out by their offices. These forms will give full details about non-Jordanian workers in the country and the labour market in the Kingdom. The minister said on Wednesday that all the information collected on the labour market in the country will soon be stored in the ministry's computer system.

A study recently released by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) urged financial firms and banks to give incentives for foreign workers to invest their money in the Kingdom. Foreign workers, the study said, have contributed 12.2 per cent to the Gross Domestic Product of Jordan and 8.5 per cent to the Gross National Product, despite other negative impacts of foreign labour on the economy.

Foreign workers represent 26 per cent of Jordan's labour market, a high percentage compared with the seventies, when Jordan was exporting manpower to Gulf Arab states. Of the non-Jordanian manpower, Arab workers constitute 92.8 per cent, 98 per cent of whom are from Egypt. Another 6.2 per cent of the total have come from Far Eastern countries and the percentage of technicians among the total number does not exceed 4.3 per cent, according to the economic research department at the RSS.

Abu Mohammad — profile of a traditional Jordanian craftsman

By Josephine Zamaniri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Abu Mohammad, one of the few truly traditional weavers still working in Jordan, has his home and workshop in Jerash. A visit to his loom is a little like stepping back into the past. His house, an older style Jordanian dwelling, is surrounded by tall green leafy trees. The courtyard is a mass of blooms and the gentle fragrance of roses wafts into the adjoining reception room. The house is sparsely and traditionally furnished and immaculate. A few moments — photographs of children or grandchildren and a fabric likeness to the great mosque in Mecca — line the otherwise bare walls. The floors are covered in superb hand woven rugs — produced at Abu Mohammad's loom. The colour of his home is dominated by the bold reds and oranges of his rugs and the blaze of deep red to delicate pink of the roses and geraniums in the courtyard.

Working in the garden

Abu Mohammad works outside his house. His two huge looms stand under tall walnut trees. His ancient craft, the serenity of his house and workplace, the gentle sound of water rippling, the spring breeze rustling the leaves and spilling flowers upon the old stone path and the openly hospitable family signify another age in the Arab World.

The family is a large one, a sister invites the strangers into the reception room, a niece hurries away to boil coffee, a grandson with an astounding stock of red hair, is hidden away to find the master. And the picture is enhanced upon meeting Abu Mohammad. An elderly, yet erect man, he welcomes in the traditional way, with sincerity and warmth. He discusses his craft with precision, pride and an implicit sense of humour. He invites with a warm laugh, "ask your questions."

He was born in Lebanon, south of Beirut, and came to Jordan 46 years ago. "I learnt my craft from my father and he from his father and the grandfather from the great grandfather," he says. The patterns and designs were passed from one generation to the next. "Now we no longer know the significance of designs, we weave what pleases us," he adds with a little shrug.

High costs

Sady Abu Mohammad no longer weaves rugs. "Costs are simply too high," he says. Spinning is around three dinars a kilo, dyeing one kilo and washing another kilo, plus the rising price of the wool as well as weaving make total costs around seven dinars a kilo, he adds.

Spinning at the well-cared for mill, his floors he con-



Abu Mohammad sits in the tranquil garden of his house near Jerash weaving a cloth of goat's hair which will be made into a "house of hash" bedouin tent (Photo by Josephine Zamaniri)

times: "They will last for forty years if they are properly cared for." During summer storage rugs should be stored dry and sprinkled with something to protect against moths, he warns. Rugs produced on the ground loom, he maintains, are more densely woven than those produced on the treadle loom.

Today, however, Abu Mohammad's ground loom produces only the *bait el sha'ar* (houses of hair) used by the bedouin. His customers are all Arabs and mainly Jordanians. Some come from as far away as Karak, Mafrak or the Salt district. October, the beginning of the rainy season, is the busiest time for Abu Mohammad. "The bedouins take stock of their tents and replace any broken sections before the rains start," he continues.

Tents for Saudis

He weaves tents for many Saudi customers too. "They often have large villas but they like to have tents in their gardens." He received one order for a hundred metre-long tent from a Saudi. The cost, says Abu Mohammad, was around JD 16,000. With an unwieldy strap he adds "I didn't have the space to weave such a length." The order was carried out in Syria. Abu Mohammad's brother spins the goats hair for the *bait el sha'ar*. No sheep's wool is used in the process and the end result is a

dense and spiky thread. Each tent section is 75 centimetres wide and several sections are joined together to form the desired width. Spinning is not carried out on larger scale than 75 centimetres says Abu Mohammad as it is difficult to keep tension on larger spans and floppy rugs result.

Watching Abu Mohammad seated comfortably at his loom shaded by old trees, the picture of life as it should be springs immediately to mind. The craftsman is at one with his environment, using natural materials to create the forms enhancing the life cycle. The frenzy of the industrial world, of factory whistles, large hostile cities and the lonely urban man are so alien to Abu Mohammad and his loom that an inevitable flood of serenity passes across the spectator, who is drawn into an understanding of man's role in his environment.

With careful hands he passes each thread across the loom and combs it into place. The task performed so many times in his long life does not bore him — the work is the act of creation.

Abu Mohammad taught all his children to weave, "but they escaped," he says with a warm laugh. "They are all in professions," he adds with a touch of pride. Unconsciously he returns to his weaving patiently playing goats hair into his loom. He bids his visitors farewell, entreating that they return again.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet forms team to visit Germany

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has formed an official delegation led by Planning Minister Taher Kana'an to hold talks with West German officials on the technical and capital aid offered to Jordan. The cabinet, during an ordinary session held Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, also took a number of decisions among which was authorising the minister of industry and trade to sign an agreement for economic cooperation between Jordan and Indonesia.

Hospital fund appeals for donations

AMMAN (J.T.) — A fund set up at the Islamic Hospital in Amman to finance the treatment of needy people has issued a public appeal asking for contributions so that the hospital can carry on with its humanitarian mission. According to the appeal which appeared in the local press, the fund has paid for the treatment of 3,072 poor people since its establishment in September 1982. It said the total funds received so far were JD 418,555 but more is needed to pay for the cost of treating needy people. The appeal cited verses from the Holy Koran which urge all Muslims to give generously for the sake of helping the poor, especially during Ramadan.

Finance Ministry to move in mid-June

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Finance and its affiliated departments will move to new premises in mid-June, a ministry official said Saturday. The official said that the new premises, located near the present ministry building, will also accommodate the departments of budget, appliances, pensions, legal affairs, inspection and an electronic data centre.

Karak prepares for tawjihi exams

AMMAN (J.T.) — More than 60,000 Jordanian students will sit for their tawjihi examinations which start on June 12 and 2,328 of these will take their examinations in Karak Governorate, according to Mr. Jamal Shubeilat, the director of education in Karak. He said students will be using 30 different halls and added that 2,166 students will be taking the secondary stage admission examination using the same halls. He added that 560 teachers have been appointed by the Ministry of Education to invigilate the examinations in Karak Governorate.

Ministry issues produce import plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has issued instructions allowing merchants to export all types of vegetables and fruit except apples during the coming month. The ministry said in a statement that it will also allow merchants to import the following fruits and vegetables in June: apples, apricots, cherries, sugar cane, thyme, sage, carrots, dates, lemons and garlic. Garlic may only be imported only through the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan, it added.

Large group of U.S. tourists visits Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Tourism Saturday held a reception for a group of 150 American tourists. The reception, which was attended by Tourism Authority Director Naser Attallah, comes within the ministry's drive to encourage American tourists to visit Jordan. The group's trip to Jordan was organised by a private travel agency and they visited Petra and Aqaba.

National park at Zay to be enlarged, developed

SALT (Petra) — The national park at Zay, near Salt, will be enlarged, 166 car parks are to be added and streets leading to the park will be enlarged in the course of implementing the first stage of developing the area, according to an announcement by Balqa Governor Mijhem Al Kureisha.

The governor said that a total of JD 40,000 will be spent on the project and added that it entails widening a 300 metre stretch of road leading to the park and building road shoulders, retaining walls and other essential im-

provements. Once the project has been completed, picnickers and visitors will not have to pay any entrance fee to the park and will be able to enjoy facilities such as a restaurant and a cafe at the park which are both to be run by the Tourist Investment Department.

The decision to improve the facilities at Zay was taken during a meeting attended by the governor, the director general of the Tourism Authority and other local officials who discussed a programme for introducing the improvements.

Amman meeting reviews governorate projects

(Continued from page 1)

very flexible in terms of implementation," he said. "Of course, the plan's financial interpretation will depend, to a large extent, on government revenues in the future."

"What is important is that all of us know that we should stick to the plan's framework and that we should meet often to discuss and evaluate the progress of the plan's implementation," he added.

The first speaker after Prince Hassan at Saturday's meeting was Amman Governor Ahmad Al Hindawi. Mr. Hindawi said that due to the existence of a good infrastructure in the capital nearly 41.3 per cent of the total population of the Kingdom are concentrated in Amman and its suburbs.

He said JD 726 million will be spent on projects within Amman Governorate between 1986 and 1990, representing 23.3 per cent of the total investments included in the national plan for the Kingdom.

According to Mr. Hindawi, Amman Governorate suffers from a scarcity of water resources. This, he said, has led the authorities to draw water to Amman from other regions of the Kingdom, thus depriving many districts from sufficient water supplies for their development.

Amman also suffers from other negative aspects which, among others, include traffic congestion and densely populated regions requiring more and more services and also an increase in the rate of crimes, Mr. Hindawi said.

Despite such negative impacts, he said, Amman remains a focal point for attracting the population in view of the presence in the capital of vast economic potential and a good infrastructure for skilled manpower required for business.

The five-year plan has provisions for re-organising the Greater Amman region and developing services, industries and tourism, as well as increasing agricultural production and developing animal husbandry. The plan, the governor said, aims to create 40,000 additional jobs.

Turning to the allocations for the plan, Mr. Hindawi said, an amount of JD 196 million has been earmarked for housing projects and government buildings. These projects include schemes to be carried out by the Urban Development Corporation, as well as a housing project for the Queen Alia International Airport and the completion of the Abu Nuseir housing estate, he said.

He said that JD 123 million will be spent on improving the transport sector. A number of main roads like the Amman-Na'ur-Dead Sea road and roads leading to the Queen Alia International Airport will be improved under this scheme, he said.

He said JD 73 million will be spent on municipal and rural development. Of this amount, JD 43 million will be spent by Amman Municipality, Mr. Hindawi added.

Between 1986 and 1990, he said, Amman Governorate will benefit from national projects like the Amal Centre for the Treatment of Cancer to be set up at the University of Jordan, roads, a planned national publishing house, the Amman International

Industrial Fair and projects carried out by pan-Arab companies.

Amman Governorate has an area of 12,935 square kilometres, nearly 13.9 per cent of the Kingdom's total area. The governorate is inhabited by nearly 1.144 million people, one third of whom are students. Some 249,000 workers live in the governorate, Mr. Hindawi said.

The next speaker was Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh. Mr. Rawabdeh said that the new five year plan offers provisions for involving local communities in general schemes designed to help Jordan pass through the present difficult economic circumstances.

Over the coming five years, Amman Municipality will be involved in carrying out projects for the Greater Amman area which is expected to be completed by the year 2005, Mr. Rawabdeh said.

According to the five-year plan, 6,936 new jobs will be created in the Greater Amman region and 22,308 in Amman Governorate, he said.

The next speaker was Mr. Abdul Halim Al Awwad, chairman of a development committee for Madaba District. Mr. Awwad said that in Madaba District, where 88,000 people live, a total of JD 52 million will be spent for development projects during the new five-year plan. Of this amount, JD 31 million will be contributed by the private sector, he added.

Madaba District is characterised by the presence of huge

agricultural lands, offering the possibility for vertical as well as horizontal expansion in farming and food production. Madaba, Mr. Awwad said, also provides opportunities for traditional crafts and modern light industries since it is a central area between the north and the south of the Kingdom.

Madaba District is also a tourist centre rich with archaeological sites and contains the Ma'in mineral spa and other attractions, he pointed out.

A total of JD 13 million will be spent on industry and agriculture, including irrigation and water projects.

Projects for searching for energy sources and electrification of 42 villages and building 87 kilometres of roads will cost some JD 25.5 million, Mr. Awwad said.

Mr. Arel Abu Karaki, chairman of the Na'our Development Committee, presented his region's plans for the next five years and said they will cost JD 24 million, of which JD 13.5 million will be spent on the social services sector.

He said the plan entails building a sports complex, a handicrafts centre, and five health clinics, developing the Na'our hospital for the mentally retarded and improving the condition of schools.

A total of JD 6 million will be spent on housing projects in the district and a free zone in Na'our, Mr. Karaki added. Nearly JD 11 million will be spent on municipal and rural projects, electricity, agricultural schemes and industry, he said.

Egypt rejects separate solution

(Continued from page 1)

East Jerusalem, with Syria regaining the Golan Heights and Egypt administering Gaza.

He said once the Israelis were gone the ultimate status of the occupied territories would be decided among the Arabs themselves. Israeli leaders have vowed never to relinquish East Jerusalem and have incorporated the Arab sector of the Holy City into their "national capital". Israel also has annexed the Golan Heights.

Mr. Mubarak said the issue of all the occupied territories must be addressed collectively "because if I work in Gaza alone, what would happen to the West Bank? And if Jordan works in the West Bank alone, we'll wind up striking against each other. That is not the way to solve the problem."

U.S. said to be near Pollard deal

(Continued from page 1)

and that more arrests were expected.

The objective of the plea-bargain, they said, would be to avoid a costly and potentially damaging public trial involving sensitive espionage and diplomatic issues in return for dropping charges against Pollard's wife, who is accused of being his accomplice.

The report that more arrests might be imminent in the case was circulated by the Los Angeles Times, which quoted knowledgeable government sources as saying Pollard was part of an organised, well-financed Israeli espionage ring.

Such a conclusion would contradict Israel's claim that Pollard's Israeli contacts were running a rogue operation unknown to their government.

"The Israelis lied to us," the Times quoted an unidentified U.S. official as saying. "This was no small-time rogue operation, it was much more systematic than that. This was a very expensive operation that they ran. There's no embassy slush fund big enough to cover that sort of thing."

The Times sources said a federal investigation of Israeli spying activities was likely to produce at least one more arrest and has brought both American and Israeli citizens under suspicion.

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Citizens too must shoulder burdens of the economy

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

ALL indications show that the Jordanian government will find itself under heavier financial burdens during the coming few years. If external aid does not increase, definitely it will not. Sluggish domestic economic performance looks to be more than a passing cyclical phenomenon. Some estimates put unemployment as high as nine per cent and rising. Large-scale projects, which were at one time thought to be part of the solution, are proving to be part of the problem; instead of supporting the treasury, they are draining it with a constant demand for more cash injections. Servicing public debt now absorbs one third of domestic revenues and it is

growing much faster than the growth rate of the budget or the economy in general. Jordan is not unique in its economic difficulties. Most Arab countries suffer from even more severe difficulties as a result of misguided economic and financial policies pursued during the last ten years. Under these circumstances, the people should be informed of the underlying problems in order to understand and appreciate the difficult circumstances and accept the unavoidable sacrifices necessary to overcome the present hard times. The government alone can do very little without the understanding, conviction

and cooperation of the people at large. Most Arab governments have signalled to their respective peoples that they are living in a state of economic emergency. Some Arab countries overreacted and dismissed one third of their employees, and drastically reduced the salaries of the rest. Huge numbers of guest labourers were deported, and most projects were either frozen or abandoned altogether. Some Arab governments even suspended payments due to contractors as evidence that the financial situation has reached a critical stage calling for crucial action to curb deficits. Fortunately, we in Jordan do

not need to go that far. However, the Jordanian people have yet to face up to the hard times ahead. Apparently the government prefers to, gradually impress upon the people their responsibility to shoulder a fair share of the burden, along with the government. Of course no one would expect, or want the government to reduce its staff, except as far as unnecessary foreign experts, technicians and staff are concerned. Nevertheless it is not wise to act as though it were business as usual. Government employees' salaries were increased in 1985, non-Jordanian workers continue to beat locals out of jobs, consumption subsidies have been increased, the

recent reduction of electricity prices at the expense of the government is a case in point. In general the government has been reducing the financial burdens of the people and increasing its own burdens. Such a policy may not be wise if we are headed into a prolonged economic downturn, as many predict. The government may want to take a different stance from now on. Its financial resources are limited and overused. It cannot go on increasing public expenditure indefinitely through deficit financing. If it does, the future cost to the people may be much higher than the moderate sacrifice required now.

Under the present circumstances we should not allow excessive dependency on government subsidies to prevail. We have to learn to accept paying the full costs of public services, be they university fees, or utility bills. Economic difficulties require a reduction of consumption. This need not mean a reduction in the Jordanian standard of living. We are simply recommending that the growth in consumption be restricted by realistic pricing of essential services and commodities. People need not make do with less, but they must not be encouraged to consume more at government expense.

Chemical weapons — a new threat

IT SEEMS a sure bet that none of the NATO ministers who, reluctantly or otherwise, last week endorsed an American plan to manufacture chemical weapons gave a second thought to what the move could mean in real terms to the Arabs in the Middle East. For most of the western states it would have appeared a far shot that the deadly bombs and missiles could wreak havoc in this part of the world, but we know better.

We will not venture into the realm of what the NATO endorsement means in the context of global détente and East-West relations. But we don't need any reminder that American cluster bombs, which were not supposed to have been supplied to any other state, found their way to the Israeli arsenal and were used freely against innocent civilians in Lebanon whenever the Jewish state found it fit to use them. Not that Israel had any qualms over using any American-made weapon, with or without official American endorsement. All we have seen or heard from the White House and Capitol Hill was a lot of hollow sounds, an American "reprisal" which everyone forgot the next day and a meaningless arms embargo that did not last long. If anything, Israel would invariably receive an extra bonus of U.S. weapons and technology as compensation for the short-lived arms embargo.

We do not know whether American chemical weapons will find their way into Israel, but, judging from past experiences, they may easily do. But the irony lies in the fact that there appears to be nothing we could do about it other than raise our voice in protest, an act which, in any event, has proved to carry little weight with the U.S.

The scenario assumes a much graver proportion in the light of the fact that the U.S., through its "strategic ally" Israel, has used the Middle East as testing ground for new technology in arms.

So, what options do we and our Arab brethren have in order to protect ourselves from the deadly fumes, which, sooner or later, will swathe their way across the lands that do not know to the Israeli whims? It would seem that we have none other than to hope against hope that the tense situation in the Middle East will be defused before too long, thereby eliminating the threat of an armed conflict. But the past has also shown us that Israel would not think twice before unleashing weapons of death and destruction at civilians at the slightest sign of what the Jewish state would interpret as provocation.

The heads-you-lose-tails-I-win situation between Israel and the Arab World is here to stay, at least until the U.S. decides to take a new look at the Middle East. We are not asking Washington to undertake the impossible task of accepting the Arab point of view; all we ask is a closer, more objective look at Middle East realities before the dice becomes even more heavily weighted in favour of Israel.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israel can't fool Europe

ISRAEL'S ambassador to France has lately called on the European Community to take joint action and end what he called Arab terrorist actions. This ambassador is trying to paint a picture of the Arabs as terrorists disturbing peace and rejecting Israel's call for an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict. This call is meant to deceive public opinion in France and the European Community, but cannot succeed for the simple fact that the Europeans are not blind, and they realise the truth about the situation in the Middle East. They surely know what it was Israel which aborted attempts in the past and continues to foil all initiatives designed to achieve a lasting peace. The Europeans realise that it is Israel which has been carrying out terrorist campaigns in the Middle East, launching aggression on Lebanon and raiding Tunis, Baghdad and other areas of the Arab World. Israel has even turned down a French request for a pledge not to repeat its raid on Iraq, where France intends to re-build the nuclear reactor destroyed by Israel in 1981. The Israelis can never succeed in presenting the Palestinians, the Lebanese or other Arabs as terrorists, since these people are waging a just resistance against those neo-Nazis who still occupy their land and deprive them of freedom and homeland.

Al Dustour: The need for a just peace

IN a recent interview with the BBC, Prince Hassan underlined four important facts which are related to the core of the Middle East issue and are of concern to Jordan. The first was that Jordan's main task was to achieve a liberation of occupied Arab land because this is a national issue. The second was the representation of the Palestinian people. Prince Hassan said that the Palestinians should be able to decide on their representatives freely, and that Jordan will not seek other than the PLO to represent the Palestinians. The third point concerns the international conference which, he said, should be convened to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, which is a first step towards the establishment of peace. The fourth point, he said, concerns the involvement of European countries as well as the United States in trying to break the deadlock in the current search for peace in the region. Prince Hassan warned of the dangers inherent in the unstable no-war-no-peace situation now prevailing in the Middle East, and said that there should be a just settlement so that extremist forces cannot dominate the region.

Sawt Al Shaub: Bridging the gap

THE brisk diplomatic moves now underway in the Arab World are a good sign of a healthy atmosphere among Arabs, and indicate that this nation will eventually achieve real solidarity. These moves, launched primarily by King Hussein, are first designed to end differences between Baghdad and Damascus for the sake of paving the way to convene an Arab summit conference as the first step towards joint Arab action. Of course differences of views among Arab leaders still persist and priorities are not in harmony. Arab leaders differ on the means but not on the objectives. These leaders should now find a way to overcome these differences and agree on the minimum level of solidarity because they all face the same challenges and common destiny, and above all, they have the same interests and belong to the same nation. For this reason, Jordan has been active in trying to bridge the gap among Arab states and help the Arab nation thwart enemy plots and conspiracies.

South Africa's extreme right aiming at 'pure' apartheid

By Ruth Pitchford
Reuter

CAPETOWN — South Africa's extreme right-wing whites are growing confident that they can win power, stamp out black protest and revert to "pure" apartheid.

Political analysts say the ruling National Party (NP) is deeply worried by white militants' recent successes in breaking up rallies for government ministers and by forecasts that it could lose its 38-year-old hold on power in an election.

Louis Stofberg, sole representative in parliament for the Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP, Reconstituted National Party), is sure that he will not remain alone for long.

"The time for the government to call an election which they can hope to win is over," Stofberg told Reuters Thursday.

He predicts that the HNP and the newer Conservative Party (CP) would take up to 80 seats

from the NP to win an absolute majority in the dominant white chamber.

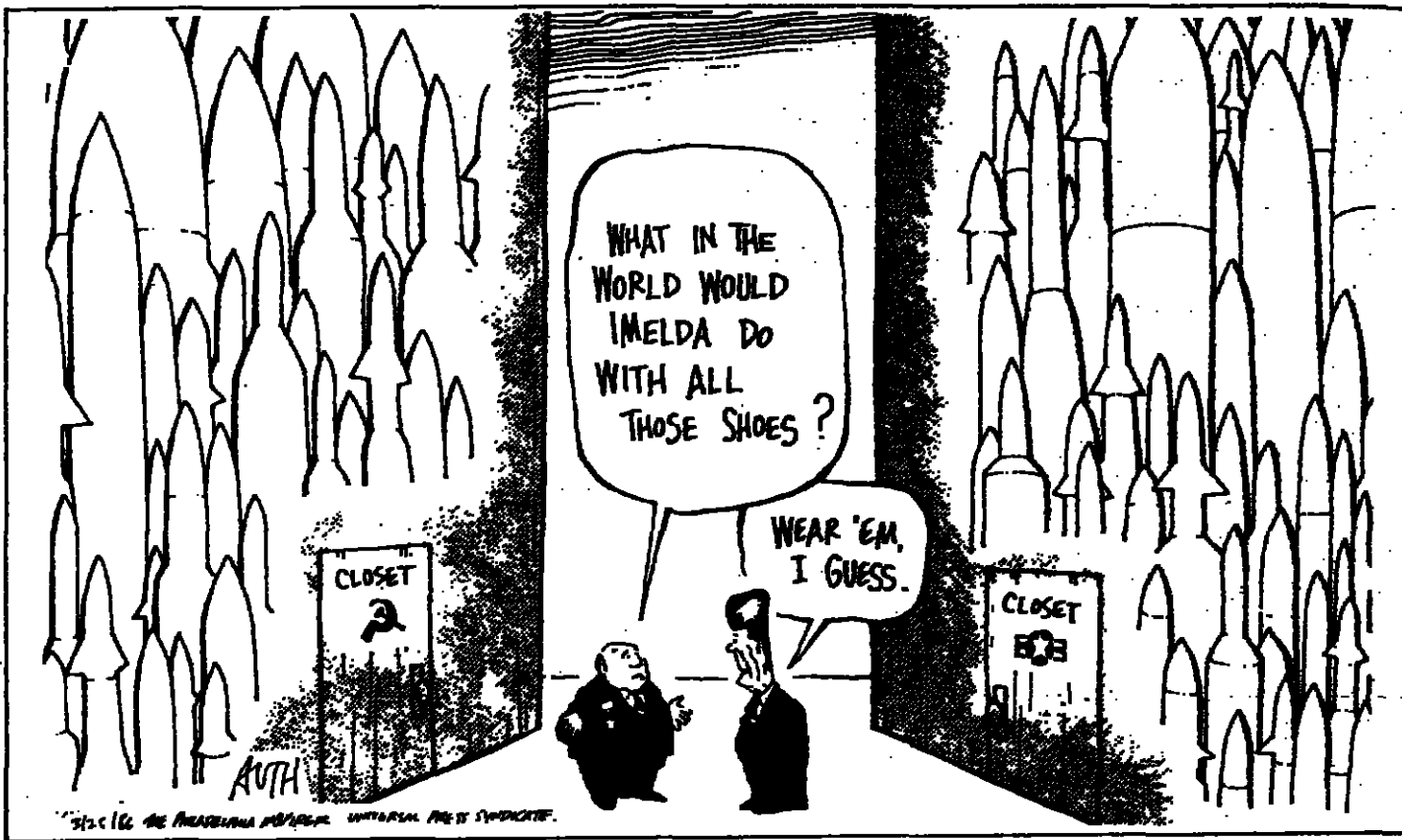
The NP, with 127 of the 178 seats there, has long looked unsalvageable by the increasingly wretched far right.

But professor Willem Kiehnans, who carries out field work on white politics, now believes the NP could easily lose enough seats to the right to forfeit its majority.

Kiehnans, a political scientist at Pretoria's University of South Africa, believes the HNP and CP might be able to produce a hung parliament, where no party has a majority, in an election held now.

The HNP and CP believe the answer to the violence ravaging racially-zoned townships is a still tougher clampdown by security forces and a return to old-style apartheid, as introduced by the NP under the leadership of Hendrik Verwoerd nearly four decades ago.

"There will be violence, there will be trouble," Stofberg said.



Utopian arms control proposals mask stale strategies

The Russian leader Mr. Gorbachev has called for new political thinking over nuclear arms and their reduction. How does his view fit in with President Reagan's Star Wars programme? Ian Davidson, in London, gives his views.

THERE is a tradition in Italian opera that the first entrance of the heroine is held back until the second scene, or even the second act, in order that the suspense may screw the expectations of her waiting spouse to fever pitch. It is a device which needs to be managed with art and moderation. Too long a delay and the audience's patience wears thin; and when the soprano does sweep on, her opening aria must live up to the tension.

It seems clear that Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev is not a close student of Italian opera. His first public appearance after the Chernobyl disaster was so long delayed that most of the tension had evaporated along with the radioactive cloud, and his prepared text was hardly a showstopper. Apart from a slight updating of the numbers of the dead and the sick, he gave little information about the accident, its causes or its operational implications. It was not, on the whole, worth waiting 18 days for.

One theme was interesting, however. This was his unexpected emphasis on the connection between civil nuclear power and nuclear weapons, and the rather dramatic way he expressed his concern on this score. After accusing the West of using Chernobyl as a pretext to obstruct arms control, he went on: "Our attitude to this tragedy is absolutely different. We realise that it is another sound of the tocsin, another grim warning that the nuclear era necessitates a new political thinking and a new policy."

As if by coincidence, Mr. Gorbachev's call for new political thinking was echoed the very same day in *Strategic Survey*, the annual report of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). "It is becoming increasingly clear," it said, "that arms control is not just about the reduction of nuclear weapons, but concerns strategy itself. Fundamental issues of strategic policy must therefore be resolved before the arms-control process can hope to advance far." Among other issues, it raised the question of the role of U.S. nuclear weapons in the defence of Europe, and the relationship between offensive and defensive strategic systems. "Both sides," it concluded, "will need to make fundamental strategic choices, but there are as yet too few indications that this requirement is being acted on."

On the other hand, the IISS has nothing good to say either for President Reagan's dream of a perfect Star Wars defence, or for Mr. Gorbachev's plan for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by the year 2000. "The grand designs of both leaders are curiously similar: both aim quite explicitly at the impossible goal of eliminating nuclear weapons."

american commitment which puts the U.S. in the firing line? Is the credibility of that commitment likely to be strengthened, or weakened, in circumstances of nuclear parity?

The fact that these questions are old does not mean that the alliance has ever come up with anything better than a patchwork quilt of questionable propositions. Because Europe has until now been prevented, by its political fragmentation if by nothing else, from matching the Soviet Union in nuclear weapons, it has preferred the safe option of handing over the problem to the U.S. and spending much less on defence than its superpower protector. At least, it seems much less safe when everyone, starting with President Reagan, is deeply worried about nuclear weapons.

NATO's strategy of "flexible response" is a euphemism for the proposition that, in the event of a Soviet attack, the West would be prepared to compensate for its weakness in conventional forces by using nuclear weapons first. There are just two problems: the West does not have nuclear superiority at any level; and the more the professionals think about using nuclear weapons, the less they like the prospect.

The nuclear strategists take flight into ever subtler refinements of counter-force targeting, in the hope of taking out the other side's nuclear weapons; but the implicit look for ways of evading the nuclear dilemma, by strengthening conventional defence through new tactics and new technology. One result of all this ferment is that no-one any longer knows how to mesh an effective defensive policy with a reliable arms control doctrine; and the more the soldiers try to replace nuclear weapons with super-accurate conventional missiles, which may be small and mobile, the harder it gets to devise an arms control regime which depends on counting numbers.

Three years ago, the U.S. Secretary of Defense recommended the administration's moving away from multi-warhead missiles in fixed silos to single-warhead mobile missiles, as a way to recover invulnerability of ICBMs (inter-continental ballistic missiles) and strategic stability; today the Pentagon is demanding that the Geneva talks should ban all mobile missiles, because they are hard to count, and because the Soviets have just started deploying two new mobile types.

Four years ago, the U.S. proposed the banning of all medium-range Euro-missiles; today the Europeans fear that the main effect of such a ban would be to undermine Soviet superiority in short-range missiles, as well as its conventional advantage.

Three years ago, President Reagan launched his Star Wars programme for perfect safety from nuclear attack; today no-one knows whether it will settle down as a modest scheme for propping up the existing strategic balance, whether it will render all arms control impossible, or whether it will launch the world into a new and terrifying arms race.

One fact seems incontrovertible: if new strategic thinking is required, it will not come from the Reagan administration. So long as the president remains wedded to the dream of a perfect astrodome defence, there will be little pressure within the administration to force the working out of a coherent compromise between the hawks and the pragmatists, between the defence lobby and the arms controllers; and the pressure will be even less so long as Washington believes that it has got the Soviets "on the run." Some U.S. officials cling to the hope that the fixing of a date for the second Reagan-Gorbachev summit will concentrate minds in Washington, but this seems a forlorn hope; half a year is too short to articulate a coherent strategic posture. If there is to be any creative thinking, it must come either from the Europeans or from the Soviets. The Europeans are scared of irritating the Americans; so that

leaves the Soviets.

If Mikhail Gorbachev is really worried by the nuclear arms race, he faces three main arms control options: deep cuts in long-range strategic weapons; a ban on all Euro-missiles; or a balance in conventional forces in Europe; or even all three. For the time being, for all his talkativeness, it seems clear that he has not made a choice.

A big reduction in strategic nuclear weapons should have lots of foreign policy appeal. It could be a stepping-stone to a major rapprochement with the U.S. superpower, since it would appear to reduce those weapons directly threatening the U.S. homeland; it could inject an unprecedented element of predictability into the strategic equation, since a big reduction would have to be phased in over at least a decade; and it might have the pulling power to secure corresponding guarantees against any destabilising, or at least any early, deployments of Star Wars systems.

If, on the other hand, Mr. Gorbachev's main worry is that Europe is sitting on a powder-keg of nuclear weapons, his preferred option might be to go for a balance — that is, unequal — reduction in conventional forces on the central front.

This was the burden of his recent speech in East Germany, when he spoke of substantial force cuts "from the Atlantic to the Urals." If the Soviet Union were to negotiate effective equality in conventional forces, it would become

much easier for NATO to accede to arguments that battlefield nuclear weapons are dangerous because they are vulnerable and uncontrollable, and should be reduced or even eliminated entirely.

Since last November's Geneva summit, attention has been focused on the third option, a Soviet suggestion that there could be an interim agreement on Euro-missiles, independent of the progress on strategic nuclear weapons and space. To the U.S., there is obvious attraction in any negotiation which is uncoupled from Star Wars; to the Europeans, such an agreement might seem a political vindication of the long Euro-missile trauma of 1979-83.

There are just two problems: it is hard to imagine any nuclear agreement so long as the major issues of strategic weapons, strategic defences and strategic stability remain in doubt; and a free-standing Euro-missile deal can focus only more anxiety on short-range weapons and conventional forces. The implication would seem to be that a reconstruction of the arms control process needs to start either at the top or at the bottom, or both, but not in the middle.

The conventional force talks resumed in Vienna recently, and also the nuclear negotiations in Geneva. Unless we soon see signs of movement at the negotiating tables, we shall know that the "new political thinking" called for by Mr. Gorbachev and the IISS is still conspicuous by its absence — Financial Times.

LETTERS

Don't blame U.S.

To the Editor:

THE May 26 issue of the Jordan Times ran on its front page a Reuters report of an article in the Soviet army daily *Krasnaya Zvezda* (Red Star). Among the Soviet article's many misstatements of fact, it alleges that the West is responsible for supplying Iran with arms and thereby prolonging the Gulf war. It is disappointing to see such self-serving commentaries relayed so prominently in a paper of the quality of the Jordan Times, particularly given the support Soviet-allied states provide Iran. The U.S. government has worked closely with its Western allies and other friendly states to stem the flow of Western arms to Iran. I am pleased to say that this effort has been largely successful.

In stark contrast, Iran receives the vast majority of its arms from Soviet-allied states in Eastern Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Without these arms, Iran would find it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to continue the war with Iraq, let alone carry out offensives which allow Iranian troops to seize Iraqi territory.

It is regrettable that the Soviets prefer blaming the West for the continuation of the tragic Gulf war to cutting off the flow of Eastern Bloc arms to Iran. It is equally regrettable that the Jordan Times chose to give these distortions of truth added credibility by replaying them on its front page.

John Wilcox,
Counsellor for Public Affairs,
Embassy of the United
States of America,
Amman.

Campaign urges use of horn substitutes to save rhinos

By Michelle Faul

Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — Conservationists are trying a new tactic in the campaign to save the rhinoceros: Drying up demand by pressuring governments to ban imports of the animal's horn and persuading practitioners of traditional medicine in Asia to use substitutes.

"We're actually having some success. And a lot of it is that we're persuading people to use substitutes," said Mr. Esmond Bradley Martin, a Nairobi-based American conservationist.

Mr. Martin is head of an international project financed by the World Wildlife Fund with support from the New York Zoological Society, the African Fund for Endangered Wildlife and the Columbus (Ohio) Zoo.

The world rhino population is down to 11,500 from 70,000 in 1970, according to Mr. Martin.

The horn — which is actually thickened compressed hair — is prized in Asia for its purported medicinal value. Herbalists insist the powdered horn is a cure for depression, fever and various skin diseases, as well as an aphrodisiac.

In North Yemen, fathers with enough money by daggers with rhino horn handles to give to sons when they come of age.

There's no point in trying to convince people that the horn has no medical value, he said in an interview upon his return from a six-month tour of East Asia.

"Rhino horn was mentioned in medical books 2,000 years ago in countries like China and Japan, where the people live longer than anyone else in the world," he said.

Conservationists are now telling doctors and pharmacists: "Turn a few pages of your medical books, and you'll see that saiga antelope and water buffalo horn are recommended for the same cures. And they're much, much cheaper."

East Asia's medical books say the substitutes are not as potent as

rhino horn and much larger quantities are needed, he added.

"But it still works out a lot cheaper, and these animals are not endangered," Mr. Martin said. "Pharmacists and traditional doctors who are not interested in the ecological arguments are responding to this logic."

China, Macao and Singapore are chief centres in the trade, he said.

"Singapore remains the greatest problem. Both imports and exports are still legal. Almost all poached Asian rhino horns go to Singapore," he said.

"Success in halting the international trade in rhino products in Eastern Asia will ultimately depend on whether Singapore can be persuaded to close down its market and whether China will stop exporting patent medicines containing rhino horn," Mr. Martin said.

Singapore indicated in 1984 that it would take part in a convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, but has never said when it would sign.

China is a major producer of rhino horn medicines marketed throughout Eastern Asia, although it has banned trade in rhino products.

Last year, Macao became the world's third-largest importer of rhino horn, and Mr. Martin found the horn available in 80 per cent of medicine shops he visited there. It was obvious that the Portuguese colony of only 360,000 people is an entrepot for China and Hong Kong, he said.

There have been major successes, though. Hong Kong used to be one of the biggest rhino horn importers. In 1979 imports were banned, but old stocks could still be exported. Mr. Martin said he met with Hong Kong government officials and they had agreed to stop the sale of those stocks, effective March.

He said, "scientists at Kyung Hee University (South Korea),

begin experiments with water buffalo horn. Now, the traditional doctors have accepted it as a substitute," he said.

He emphasised that four years ago the traditional doctors' association refused to discuss substitutes for rhino horn.

In Japan, rhino horn imports were banned in 1980, but stocks in the country were used for the next few years.

"Now only one pharmaceutical company there is still selling manufactured rhino horn medicines, and it has agreed to stop," Mr. Martin said.

Despite restrictions on rhino products in Thailand, Mr. Martin found that 34 per cent of Chinese medicine shops in Bangkok, the capital, had rhino horn.

"Many also sold rhino toenails which, like horn, are used to lower fever. And there are also several selling rhino skin, which is used for treating human skin diseases," Mr. Martin said. "Thai authorities have done little to discourage imports and sales of rhino products."

He spent a month in India, where poaching is threatening half the world's Asian rhino herds. Little is used there, but it earns hard currency abroad for poaching syndicates, he said.

Efforts to curb the trade have been ineffective, he said. "In the late 1970s, medicine shops in Eastern Asia were consuming almost five tons of rhino horn a year," Mr. Martin said. "By the mid-1980s they were consuming only about a ton and a half yearly."

Rhino horn prices had not increased in that time, which shows that demand had followed supply downward.

"Success in halting the international trade in rhino products in Eastern Asia will ultimately depend on whether Singapore can be persuaded to close down its market and whether China will stop exporting patent medicines containing rhino horn," Mr. Martin said.

Paris, noted for its haute cuisine, is experiencing a change in eating habits: *fast-food outlets are often longer than those at bistros.* Susan Elliott charts the rise of "le hamburger."

PARIS — Fast food is big business in Paris — surprising as it may seem in the capital of haute cuisine.

The crowds at fast food restaurants on the Champs-Élysées are outnumbering those at nearby bistros. Even the local bakers are starting to feel the pinch as fast-food *croisseries* churn out the familiar French breakfast roll, *brioche*, and *pains au chocolat*.

The U.S.-style outlets in Paris have multiplied nearly ten times since 1980 and now number close to 1,000 reflecting the increasing French appetite for "le hamburger" and "le milkshake."

The recent fifth Fast Food Exhibition in Paris, organised by the National Fast Food and Catering Federation (SNARR) has mus-

broomed in size too. With 175 stands, it was the biggest to date.

It is not so much the big U.S. chains which have cornered the French market, but home-grown businesses. Only McDonalds and Burger King among the U.S. companies have made an impact of any significance on the French palate.

The others, despite North American names like Freetime, OKitch, Manhattan Burger, Mister Goodfast and Love Burger are 100 per cent French.

Turnover of FF3.3 billion (\$482 million) last year for the French fast food industry marks both a 44 per cent increase from 1984 and a dramatic turnaround in contemporary culinary tastes.

In 1972, when McDonalds first made a foray into the French mar-

ket, it franchised all its outlets to guard against Gallic shrugs of disapproval.

So why the fast food boom now? Mrs. Catherine Magnin, of the SNARR, thinks there are several reasons.

"More and more women are going out to work. As a result, the long lunchbreak has gone out of fashion in favour of the quick, working lunch. Fast food is reliable in quality, cheap and convenient. More importantly, the Americanisation of our young people means that everything American today has become chic — and that includes ketchup," she says.

Recent statistics show the average fast food fan to be under-25, female and an ex-client of the traditional family-run corner bistro.

"Of course there is still some resistance to the hamburger, but both bistro and burger-joint can exist alongside one another," says

Mrs. Magnin. "They respond to different needs. We won't ever lose our traditional cuisine. In fact, we have improved the U.S. hamburger — added fresh salad, slices of roast beef and introduced boxes of healthy *crudités*."

The food industry believes the fast food business has now reached maturity, although turnover is expected to double between now and 1990. Freetime, the second largest fast food company in France which is owned by the Accor hotel group, has already expanded elsewhere in Europe and in Asia.

There are still a few gaps in the French market, though. The Kis group, already known for its shoe-repair and key-bar chains, aims to open 50 "Cookis" snack stands by the end of next year, offering American-style biscuits and cakes.

Success in this sector of the market is not easy however, and

many companies have fallen by the way-side. "At first too many jumped onto the bandwagon," says Mrs. Magnin.

At the Paris show, French companies gave an impressive, not to say indigestible, display of the latest in fast-food equipment and food novelties. Among the latter was the "Chouet-Burger" ("Sna-shing Burger"), which is baked and eaten like a lollipop.

Mr. Alain Madelin, the minister for industry and tourism, and one of the most radical voices in the new right-wing government, visited the show to urge the French industry to push ahead with gastronomic innovations and win new food markets.

And when it came to the serious business of lunch, he backed up his call by tucking into a sumptuous spread of burgers, chips and synthetic crab-sticks — Financial Times news feature.

Filipina maids seek the good life in Hong Kong

By Mark Fisher

Reuters

HONG KONG — Margerita Cayabyab had high hopes of a satisfying career as a teacher after graduating in English at Arellano University in Manila.

It never worked out. Ten years later, she had abandoned Shakespeare and Hemingway and makes a living scrubbing pots and pans in a rich family's kitchen in Hong Kong.

"Of course I don't like the work or being someone's status symbol, but what can I do?" she says stoically. "I earn far more here than I would as a professional in the Philippines."

Cayabyab is one of the 25,000 women who have escaped low pay or unemployment in one of Southeast Asia's poorest countries to work as maids in this wealthy British colony in the homes of Chinese or expatriates.

They earn an official minimum of 1,800 dollars (\$230 U.S.) a month for housework and looking after children and are banned by law from doing other types of work.

Cayabyab and other maids, some of them also well-educated, told Reuters they sent much of their pay back home to large families relying on them to make ends meet. Many are mothers who rarely get the chance to see their children.

"Maids are the Philippines' biggest export," joked Cayabyab, who has worked here since she graduated.

Their numbers here have rocketed — there were 14,500 in 1981 according to official figures — as mismanagement and corruption plagued the Philippine economy under the rule of now-outcasted President Ferdinand Marcos.

Many Filipinas also work as maids in Singapore, the Middle East, Europe and Canada. They are prized because they speak good English, a legacy of U.S. colonial rule from 1898 to 1946.

Hong Kong's Filipina community is highly visible on Sundays, their traditional day off. Hundreds flock to the staid financial district of central Hong Kong, where they congregate in cramped parks and wile away the day with radios, lunch and conversation.

A favourite meeting-point is Chater Garden — dubbed Chater Garden by local residents.

But there may be fewer jobs for Filipinas in future if the government removes a ban on hiring maids from China.

An official spokesman said many employers felt the restriction was anomalous, since maids can enter Hong Kong on renewable two-year contracts from anywhere else in the world.

Apart from the Filipinas; there are a total of 1,700 from countries as far away as Indonesia, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

"We are looking into the possibility of maids coming in from

China," said government secretary Mark Pinkstone.

He added that many Chinese families were likely to prefer them, especially those who had employed Hong Kong "amaahs" (maids) before local wages rose so high that it became cheaper to bring in foreigners.

An Immigration Department spokesman stressed there were no plans afoot to send Filipinas home as long as someone wanted to employ them.

But many fear their jobs may no longer be secure as Hong Kong prepares for an uncertain future under Peking's rule.

The cosmopolitan capitalist territory will become part of China in 1997, although it will enjoy a high degree of autonomy and the right to retain its free and easy economic ways for 50 years.

Pinkstone said maids from China were currently banned because of fears they might stay in Hong Kong after their contracts expired, adding to an already serious illegal immigrant problem.

About 30 Chinese are rounded up each day after braving barbed-wire fences, dogs, army patrols and sharks to seek a new and more prosperous life this side of the border. Many others escape detection.

Non-Chinese living here without permission are easier to identify, Pinkstone said.

But a former immigration tribunal official, Chan Pak-Keung, has complained that some Filipinas are working illegally in bars, shops and factories.

Chan was quoted by the South China Morning Post newspaper as criticising a few "ruthless maids" who treated their employers badly — some even smashing furniture — to win early release from contracts and seek other kinds of work.

A maids' organisation said it knew of no such behaviour. The Immigration Department spokesman told Reuters that raids in the red-light district of Wanchai late last year netted 20 Filipinas working illegally.

He said more swoops were likely to follow in the area, whose bars are frequented by a mixture of Hong Kong Chinese, expatriate businessmen, tourists, foreign maids and sailors from U.S. warships on shore leave.

One Go-Go dancer, whose earnings tripled when she came here as a maid and tripled again when she found her new job in a club, said officials sometimes turned a blind eye to illicit working.

And the tide of eager Filipinas hoping to make their fortunes in Hong Kong is unlikely to ebb soon.

A middle-aged Filipino banker said his country's economy was so rickety that the supply of potential maids would not dry up for years.

"When I was a boy and the economy was fine, rich families in the Philippines had Chinese maids," said Manny Valdez ruefully. "That seems a long time ago."

Spectacular China-Pakistan mountainous crossing opens

By Graham Earnshaw

Reuters

KHUNJERAB PASS, Between China and Pakistan — This spectacular mountain pass linking Pakistan with China's far west opened to tourists for the first time last month to give adventurous travellers one of the most thrilling border crossings in the world.

I was in the first group of journalists allowed by China to travel to Pakistan along the Karakoram highway which snakes past some of the earth's highest mountains, over the pass and through gorges which could become a top tourist draw.

Mark Skinner, a 29-year-old British lawyer and long-distance cyclist was one of the first to ride the delights — and difficulties — of the crossing.

We met him as he was riding along the highway on Pakistan on a battered bicycle which had made him the first person ever to cycle over the pass.

Why did he do it? "We British are eccentrics," he replied with a weary laugh. "We have our moments."

An earlier British adventurer, Sir Aurel Stein, described the Khunjerab pass around the turn of the century as being "an excursion for the ladies." The 400 workers who died building the Karakoram highway over the 5,000-metre high pass in the 1970s would not have agreed.

In ancient times, the Khunjerab pass — its name means "valley of blood" — and is said to come from the bandits who once preyed on caravans — was one of the main crossing points between the sub-continent and central Asia.

Now, with tourism in China taking off at an unprecedented rate, officials on both sides of the border are concerned there will be a rush of travellers wanting to be among the first to experience the majesty of the Karakoram peaks.

The opening of the Khunjerab pass is the 10th international tourist event of 1986, an enthusiasm a Swiss traveller in Tashkurgan, the first town on the Chinese side of the frontier.

But the road itself and facilities

on either side of the border will be capable of handling only a trickle of travellers for the foreseeable future.

In an apparent effort to control numbers, Pakistan requires all foreign travellers along the route to have visas even if they belong to nationalities which are normally admitted to Pakistan without them.

The Karakoram highway itself stretches more than 1,100 km between Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, and the city of Kashgar in China's far west, one of the main stop-off points on the ancient silk road across central Asia.

Work on the highway began in 1967 with construction squads from the Chinese People's Liberation Army doing most of the work in spite of protests from India which claims the land on the Pakistan side of the border as part of Kashmir. Construction of the mountain sections was completed in 1982.

The toughest part to build was on the Pakistani side where the road winds through deep rock canyons and skirts cliffs which plunge with heart-stopping suddenness towards distant riversheds.

For hours on end, the road presents travellers with a three-tiered picture — snow peaks high above, vivid green vegetation clinging to the steep slopes straight across the drop and dizzying river gorges far below. Sometimes the chasm is only inches from the wheels of the jeep.

The Pakistani authorities warn visitors that rock slides can occur at any time.

At one point our driver stopped suddenly as stones tumbled off the cliff in front of us. He peered up, looking for boulders, and then drove at speed through the danger zone.

Camel caravans braved the treacherous pass for centuries before the road was built. In 1969, the first direct trade exchange between Pakistan and China involved two camel trains loaded with silks, oils and spices, just as in the days of the silk road, 1,000 years ago.

But the camels have since been abandoned in favour of trucks. Two convoys a year now cross the

pass, which is open from about April to November, depending on the weather.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony at the snow-covered top of the pass on May 1 marked the beginning of a new era for both countries.

"We hope for more tourists — it is the common desire of Pakistan and China," said Zhang Pingsheng, a tourist official in Urumqi, capital of China's far west region of Xinjiang. "But our transport and hotel facilities are not adequate yet."

The Chinese town of Tashkurgan was a remote military outpost on the road to nowhere until the highway was built. Now it is set to become a regular stopover on the Asian tourist trail.

"We are thrilled that the border has been opened," said one young customs official out for an evening stroll near Tashkurgan's only guest house for foreigners. "It is a good thing for our town and for China."

The road is rough and facilities are very primitive, but the scenery is magnificent and, on the Chinese side, still unspoiled.

The traveller passes Tadjik herdsman tending their flocks of yaks and goats on green pastures stretching between snow-capped ranges.

Traders carrying their wares on pack-camels trudge along the highway between tiny settlements of yurts, the round, tent-like structures once common throughout central Asia.

A branch road off the highway at one point leads towards the area where Afghanistan, Pakistan, China and the Soviet Union all meet, a reminder of the tensions which have helped keep this region closed to tourists for so long.

The traveller passes the Chinese border post of Pirall with another hour still to go before reaching the stone frontier marker at the top of the pass.

As we reached the top, we found a bus-load of Pakistanis photographing each other.

"So this is Pakistan," I said to one, but he shook his head. "Kashmir," he replied.

But that's another story.

After fifty years, Granada pays tribute to Garcia Lorca

By Leslie Crawford

Reuters

GRANADA, Spain — After 50 years of guilty silence, Granada is paying homage to its most famous son, the poet Federico Garcia Lorca, whose brilliant career was cut short by a firing squad at the outbreak of the Spanish civil war.

Hailed as the father of modern Spanish poetry, but reviled as a Communist and homosexual by the nationalist forces who killed him, Lorca's work was banned during the first 20 years of General Francisco Franco's dictatorship.

Now Granada is reclaiming the memory of this legendary figure with a whole summer of events dedicated to him.

An abandoned olive grove in the foothills northeast of Granada, where Lorca is believed to have been shot and buried, has been transformed into a memorial park. Rows of poplars frame a simple stone cross, marking the spot where hundreds of republican prisoners were executed.

The memorial evokes a moving elegy written by Antonio Machado, another republican poet who died in exile in 1939.

"Friends, build the poet a tomb of stone and dreams ... Above a spring where the water forever cries

The crime was in Granada, his Granada."

The Lorca family's summer house, the Huerta de San Vicente, is soon to be opened as a museum.

"I am delighted the Huerta is being opened to the public," said Evaristo Correia, who for 22 years has taken care of the handsome villa that lies just beyond the edge of the city.

"During the Franco years, Afficionados would make sur-

reptitious visits to ask about Federico. In those days, in Granada, it was not wise to show your appreciation openly."

The Huerta is decorated with Lorca's paintings and drawings. The poet's piano will shortly be arriving from Madrid. A huge walnut desk dominates Lorca's bedroom, where French windows open to a balcony and the snow-covered peaks of the Sierra Nevada.

"There's so much jasmine and nightshade in the garden that we all wake up with poetic headaches," Lorca once wrote.

Encarnita Santugini, a neighbour, remembers the Lorcas buying the villa in 1925.

"Federico brought life to the Huerta," she said. "He filled the house with music and friends. Federico played the piano and guitar and knew dozens of Andalusian folk songs."

Santugini, now a white-haired grandmother, recalls Lorca teasing her as a child. "He would stop me, point to his cheeks and demand a kiss on each. I always blushed and ran away."

The Lorcas were a political family. Federico's brother-in-law was the Socialist mayor of Granada and the poet, though not a member of any party, made no secret of his hatred of fascism.

In the summer of 1936, Lorca had been at the Huerta only a few days when news reached Granada that Franco had seized the Canary Islands on July 18 and was calling for a military uprising on the mainland.

Within five days, the rebels had gained control of Granada. Lorca's brother-in-law was arrested at his office in the town hall and imprisoned in the provincial jail along with hundreds of other republicans.

Groups of Falangists invaded the Huerta, beating and abusing the family and going through the poet's personal papers.

Lorca, fearing for his life, turned to a poet friend, Luis Rosales. Although he was a prominent member of the Falange, Rosales agreed to hide him. Rosales' protection proved short-lived.

On August 16, the nationalists arrived with an arrest warrant. Three days later, Lorca was dead. He was 38.

The poet was an early victim of the reign of terror which followed the nationalist uprising and claimed an estimated 4,000 lives in Granada alone.

The prisoners were brought in trucks to be shot against the outside walls of the municipal cemetery. Jose, the cemetery's gardener, told Reuters.

Half a century later, Lorca's work is enjoying a huge revival. Three of his plays have recently been staged in Madrid. Yerma, the tragedy of a barren peasant woman, is on its way to London's West End. His poetry is read out in the trendy cafes colonised by Madrid's cultural vanguard, the Movida.

But Lorca's family has been criticised by student unions and cultural groups for building a "Lorca business" from charging royalties for the smallest productions.

In May, Granada's theatre festival cancelled a stage adaptation of Lorca's New York poems.

"We live in a capitalist economy and those who choose to represent or publish Lorca do so, among other reasons, for profit," Manuel Fernandez Montesinos, the poet's cousin, told reporters in Granada.

"We, of course, want our share of these profits, which has not prevented us from authorising a multitude of performances without charging," Montesinos said.

Eleven runners press on in 1,000-mile marathon

By John Phillips

Reuters

NEW YORK — When Trishul Cherns told his mother he was going to run in a 1,000-mile race, she looked at him and said, "If you want to go that far, why don't you take a bus?"

Joe Michaels, another entrant in an "ultra marathon" now being run in New York, has had seven heart attacks and double bypass heart surgery, and learned a few weeks ago that one of his arteries is beginning to clog up again.

Then there's 54-year-old Dan Coffey. He has been running, trotting and walking around the one-mile course — 700 times so far — grinning most of the way.

Cherns and Michaels, both Americans, and Coffey from Britain, are among 11 men and two women who 11 days ago began weaving through the asphalt cou-

rses — past a carousel and an outdoor zoo — in flushing meadow, New York.

Some came just to try to last the 15-day maximum time allowed to run the distance, while others hope to beat the world record of 1,000 miles in 12 days, 12 hours, 36 minutes, set in Colac, Australia, in 1983 by 44-year-old Siegfried Bauer of New Zealand.

Two runners have dropped out, and the only woman left in the race is 56-year-old American Sulochana Kallai, who works in a New York department store.

"Sing to myself hoping to get in good conscience," she said while hobbling around the track with a smile on her face, despite what she said were painful shin splints. At the 10-day mark, she had finished 462 miles. No woman has ever finished any of the five 1,000-mile marathons held in this century, race director Tarak Kauff said.

The race, with no prize money or appearance fees, was organised by the disciples of Sri Chinmoy, described by spokesman Dhruva Steven Hein as an Indian spiritual teacher who stresses meditation and physical fitness for his estimated 1,300 followers throughout the world.

Running is part of Chinmoy's philosophy: Combining inner peace and outer progress and urging people to "go beyond their present capacities," Hein said.

The Sri Chinmoy people have set up a 24-hour kitchen serving up such favourite runners' dishes as soup, vegetables with soy sauce, rice cakes with thick spread butter and, of course, lots of water.

Some are on duty keeping track of the completed laps. Others massage runners' legs, wake them after their usual three to four hours of sleep daily, and help them through bouts of depression.

The followers of Sri Chinmoy, both those in the race and those observing it, describe almost identical reasons for running the race. They talk of "going beyond the strictures of daily life" of being closer to their emotions by "feeling the joy of the pain of your legs, the sadness of your discouraged mind" and "the joy of the centre of your body."

Coffey and Michaels, who like several others in the race, are not followers of Chinmoy, say they really appreciate the Sri Chinmoy people for organising such a race, but if the truth be known they just like to run.

Bulgaria holds defending champion Italy to draw

MEXICO CITY (R) — Italy scorned the sparkling soccer which led to their ultimate triumph in Spain four years ago when they began their 1986 World Cup campaign with a scrappy 1-1 draw against Bulgaria Saturday.



The champagne football that had been hoped for never materialised and the 13th Finals were launched in the Aztec Stadium with something more reminiscent of stale beer.

Indeed the only spectators happy with the outcome of this game will be the other two Group A nations, 1978 winners Argentina and South Korea.

Italy fielded the five survivors from their victorious side of four years ago and striker Sandro Altobelli, who claimed the third goal in the 3-1 win against West Germany in the 1982 final, was first to get off the mark in 1986 when he opened the scoring after 43 minutes.

But the Bulgarians, who had all but disappeared after Altobelli's opener, scored a stunning equaliser six minutes from time when Nasko Sirakov rose above the Italian defence to steer a perfectly directed header past goalkeeper Giovanni Galli.

Altobelli's performance was the one bright spot in an otherwise disappointing game and his instinct in front of goal suggests Italy may yet bounce back from this setback as they did four years ago.

After only 40 seconds Bulgarian midfielder Anyo Sadkov was heavily brought down by Giuseppe Galderisi, the Italian's replacement for 1982 World Cup hero Paolo Rossi. But the free kick came to nothing.

As expected, both Italy, the defending champions, and Bulgaria, looking for their first victory in the finals of the tournament, made a tentative start.

Bulgaria's Stoycho Mladenov burst through in the sixth minute but was brought down heavily by defender Pietro Vierchowod.

Free-kick specialist Plamen Gotov's free-kick bounced off the Italian wall and as Galderisi burst upfield with the ball he was tackled from behind.

The game was marred by frequent stoppages. Italy's captain Gaetano Scirea conceded the

game's first corner in the ninth minute, but Gotov's kick flew aimlessly over a crowded goal area. Italy began to string their passes together and they almost went ahead in the 11th minute when Galderisi worked his way into the Bulgarian area and was only centimetres too high with a stinging right foot drive.

Three minutes later a long ball out of defence left Bruno Conti racing clear down the right. His perfectly timed cross was knocked narrowly over by Alessandro Altobelli.

Bulgaria were putting together some intricate moves but they tended to break down on the edge of the Italian box where Scirea was an impenetrable barrier.

Italy had another chance in the 19th minute when they won a free-kick 20 metres out but Conti wasted the opportunity by blasting the ball against the Bulgarian defensive wall.

Bulgaria built slowly and predictably from their own half with striker Bogidar Iskrenov, who was playing a roving role, trying to break through the uncompromising Italian defence.

The Bulgarians won two free-kicks for heavy fouls in the 25th and 26th minutes but Gotov wasted both, the second giving Giovanni Galli an easy high catch.

The best chance of a draw game came in the 30th minute when Yivko Gospodinov passed to Plamen Gotov who outwitted Giuseppe Bergomi and swept away down the left flank.

Gotov put over a lovely hanging cross but Iskrenov wasted a free header.

Almost immediately Italy broke down; the left and striker Alessandro Altobelli, dribbling across the penalty area, passed to Antonio Di Gennaro who pulled the ball wide from 12 metres.

Altobelli broke the deadlock in the 43rd minute when he raced in to side-foot home following a free-kick taken by Antonio Di Gennaro out near the right touchline.

Manager Ivan Vutsov brought on winger Kostadin Kostadinov for Bogidar Iskrenov in the 65th minute and Italy substituted Bruno Conti with young forward Gianluca Vialli after Conti had fallen in a heavy tackle.

The Italians began to get more and more on top and in the 70th minute Vierchowod hit a beautiful right-foot shot just over the bar from 25 metres.

Two minutes later Di Gennaro took a free-kick which Altobelli headed back to Cabrini, but the Juventus full-back headed over.

chance. The defending champions led 1-0 at halftime.

Italy kicked off the second half and almost immediately de Napoli took a short pass and curled the ball narrowly wide off the far post from the right-hand edge of the box.

The Bulgarians, pressing for an equaliser, broke down the left and Bergomi became the first player to be booked in the finals when he grabbed the ball with his hand as he lost his footing just outside the box. The Bulgarians wasted the free-kick.

The game's second booking came a few minutes later when Bulgaria's Alexander Markov blocked winger Bruno Conti as he tried to slip past him on the right.

In the 58th minute Galderisi, who was beginning to give the Bulgarian defence a torrid time, nearly set up Italy's second goal but his short cross from the right was blocked by Nikolai Arabov.

Italy should have gone two up in the 60th minute when Altobelli, put through on the left, slipped a return pass to Scirea, who with time and space shot straight at Borislav Mikhailov.

The Bulgarians, tiring from the heat and altitude in a manner reminiscent of their 1970 campaign here, rarely looked like breaking down the tough and experienced Italian defence, marshalled by veteran sweeper Scirea.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Maradona criticises Havelange

MEXICO CITY (R) — Diego Maradona lashed out at International Football Federation (FIFA) boss Joao Havelange for criticising players' complaints at the World Cup soccer finals. "Footballers have as much right as Havelange to talk and give their opinions because we are the ones who go on to the pitch, not FIFA officials," Maradona said. At a FIFA press conference on Wednesday Havelange said the players should accept the decisions of the soccer authorities just as actors must accept those of their producers. "It's not a question of who is above who," Maradona said, "or that we want to change the Mexico World Cup, but we are concerned about playing at an hour when we can do so at 100 per cent (of our form)."

Robson likely to miss England opener

SALTILLO, Mexico (R) — England captain Bryan Robson hinted Friday that he was unlikely to play in his team's opening World Cup match against Portugal on Tuesday. Robson, who is nursing an achilles tendon injury, said he did not feel physically prepared or mentally ready for a tough match and would not risk playing unless he was 100 per cent fit. Robson told Reuters: "My achilles tendon is still a problem. I have been working as hard as the other players in running, but not with a ball. My touch on the ball has to come back for me to be considered. If I am not feeling right in my own mind by Saturday I will not play."

Spanish players recover from 'tourists'

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (R) — Spanish players said on arrival at Guadalajara airport Friday that the four players suffering from stomach trouble had now recovered, two days before their opening World Cup Group D match against Brazil. "All my colleagues have recovered," said star striker Emilio Butragueno as he fought his way past newsmen and Spanish fans. Midfielder Ramon Caldera added jokingly: "It was all a Brazilian scare." Caldera, Rafael Gordillo and Ricardo Gallego — all first team choices — plus reserve striker Hipolito Rincón were struck down in midweek. Ironically they appear to have caught the illness when they were entertained by the local Spanish community near their camp in Tlaxcala outside Mexico City.

Piggott's horse wins at home track

LONDON (R) — Lester Piggott, who rode hundreds of winners at Newmarket, including six Classic successes, registered his first victory as a trainer at his home track Saturday. Latch String, a 6-1 chance, snatched a neck victory in a blanket finish to a sponsored handicap to give Piggott his fifth winner in all since switching roles. Bryn Crossley rode a perfectly-timed finish for his second success since he returned to the saddle after being out of action for 10 months with a badly broken leg.

South Korean official offers to share games with North

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A top South Korean sports official was quoted Saturday as saying North Korea would be allowed to host some of the Asian Games this fall and the 1988 Olympics if it participates in both events. Sports minister Park Seh-Jik was quoted in an interview with the English language monthly "Diplomacy" distributed Saturday. Park also is president of the Seoul Olympic Organising Committee (SLOOC) and the Seoul Asian Games Organising Committee (SAGOC).

He said such a concession of events to North Korea will be made "within the framework of the rules and regulations of OCA (Olympic Council of Asia) and IOC (International Olympic Committee) if North Korea desires to do so." Seoul is scheduled to stage the Asian Sept. 20-Oct. 5 this year, and the Summer Olympic Games Sept. 17-Oct. 2, 1988.

The sports minister did not mention which events North Korea might host. Sports officials of the two rival countries have held several meetings in Lausanne, Switzerland, under IOC auspices to discuss a North Korean demand for co-hosting the Olympic Games. South Korean officials have said International Olympic Committee rules make it impossible to divide the entire games between North and South Korea, but said they were willing to share a few events with the north.

It later was reported that North Korea had backed off and asked that only a few events be staged in the North. Both sides are slated to meet again in Lausanne in June. North Korea has not said if it will participate in either the Asian and Olympic Games in Seoul.

France is confident of victory

By Nisha Starcevic
Associated Press Writer

GUANAJUATO, Mexico — France, the European champion, is basking a string of injuries and stomach ailments but is confident of winning its World Cup opener against underdog Canada Sunday in Leon.

France is the seeded team in Group C, which also comprises the Soviet Union and Hungary. Coach Henri Michel said Friday he expected his two injured players to be fit for the match against Canada, which is making its first appearance in the finals.

Forward Bruno Bellone and defender William Ayache, both suffering from old thigh injuries, were training Friday and Michel said he would wait until the evening training session to decide whether the two men could be named in the team.

In addition to the two injuries, several French players came down with stomach ailments, including Ayache, defender Patrick Battiston, key midfielder Jean Tigana and Thierry Tusseau, a reserve midfielder.

Tigana, Ayache and Battiston are all expected to recover in time for the match against Canada.

Battiston is replacing Yvon Le Roux, who is sitting out a one-match suspension imposed by FIFA for being expelled in the last qualifying match against Yugoslavia.

Tigana is a key man in the formidable French midfield, the backbone of the team.

"They ate too much exotic fruit, but they should be alright by this evening and it's not very serious," French team doctor Maurice Vriellac said.

He said the injuries to Bellone and Ayache also were not that bad.

Ayache said he expected to be fully fit. "I ran well, I accelerated without problems, so I expect to be able to play," Ayache said. "But now I have this stomach problem, too."

Michel said Ayache would train with the team Friday afternoon at this mountain resort between Leon and Irapuato, the two venues for Group C matches.

Michel said he didn't know Canada very well. "We have watched some video tapes of their games, that's all. They are a physical team, which resembles very much British sides," he said. "We are the favourites and we

should win but we'll have to confirm our role on the field as well," Michel said.

"It's a match we have to win. The first match is always difficult but I am glad that it's Canada we're playing and not one of the other teams," he added.

French captain Michel Platini, arguably the top player in the world, said he was ready and eager to start playing.

"I feel 200 per cent fit," Platini, 31, said.

Asked if France was under increased pressure by being considered one of the favourites to win the World Cup, Platini said: "No, in fact we like being the favourites. It has been a long time since France was a favourite. We find this feeling inspirational and confidence-giving."

France won its first major international title when it clinched the 1984 European championship at home, but is also a notoriously bad traveller and the expected victory against Canada could provide added confidence to the team.

As an additional motivation, the French Soccer Federation has promised each French player the equivalent of \$60,000 if the team wins the World Cup, according to sources close to the federation.

Hopes of Africa rest on Belloumi

By Richard Boudreaux
Associated Press Writer

GUADALAJARA, Mexico — Algerian hopes at the World Cup rest on playmaker Lakhdar Belloumi and his delicate right leg.

The tall, wiry midfielder is Algeria's most popular soccer player and its team leader. That team carries the hopes of millions of African soccer fans who will follow the 24-nation championship which began Saturday.

Morocco, the other African entrant, is rated somewhat weaker than Algeria in the 24-nation field.

Soccer fans have reason to watch the man wearing green jersey no. 10. Four years ago, in Algeria's World Cup debut, Belloumi scored the winning goal in a stunning 2-1 upset of eventual finalist West Germany.

Now the Third World upstarts of 1982, who barely missed the second round that year, are back in the World Cup with nine of their veterans. They are the first African squad to make consecutive appearances in an event dominated by Europeans and South Americans.

The problem is that during World Cup qualifying in March 1985, Belloumi fractured his tibia

in a match against Libya.

No sooner had he recovered than the same shinbone broke again. The happened last September in Algeria's national club championships.

Belloumi is training cautiously as Algeria prepares for its opening match Tuesday against Northern Ireland in Guadalajara.

Manoeuvring the ball skillfully in scrimmages with teammates, he conspicuously avoids close contact with defenders.

"For the moment I am very well, completely recovered from the injury," the 27-year-old player said Thursday after the practice session at Guadalajara's Jalisco club. "And I am not afraid to play against anyone."

Hadji Abdelkader, Radaoui, the team physician, was more cautious. "I would say he is 80 to 90 percent of the Belloumi you saw four years ago," the doctor said.

Algerian head coach Rabah Saadane said he has decided his lineup against Northern Ireland but is refusing to disclose it until hours beforehand.

But Belloumi seems certain to start because the coach said: "Thanks to his psychological strength, he's getting back to top form. He is stronger every day and

perfectly capable of playing an entire match."

Three-time World Cup champion Brazil, which plays Spain on Sunday, has won the favour of Mexican fans in Guadalajara, and news of the Brazilian players' various ailments has dominated local discussions about soccer.

But since their arrival here last week, the Algerians have received hundreds of telegrams from African soccer clubs and fans wishing fitness for Belloumi success for the team, according to Saadane.

"It is a great honour to represent Africa but also a great responsibility," the midfielder said.

Belloumi remained with the Algerian club Mascara under a well-paying contract while many of his teammates on the 1982 squad signed contracts with European clubs.

Their experience has strengthened the rest of the team enough to have won most of Algeria's qualifying matches without him. But they say Belloumi's magic is essential if Algeria is to get anywhere in this World Cup.

"He is an incredible one-touch player, the best I've seen," said Rachid Harkoui, an Algerian forward playing for Nott's County in the English League.

Defending champion Wilander toppled by Soviet player at the French Open

PARIS (AP) — Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union upset defending champion Mats Wilander 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 Saturday to advance to the fourth round of the French Open tennis championships and eliminate yet another Swedish player from the men's singles.

Wilander, a two-time winner on the red clay courts at Stade Roland Garros, followed three other seeded Swedish men to the sidelines. Earlier in the two-week tournament, fifth-seeded Stefan Edberg, no. 6 Joakim Nyström and no. 7 Anders Jarryd were ousted.

It is the first time since he made his French Open debut in 1982 that Wilander has failed to reach at least the semifinals.

"I'm not shocked about getting out so early," Wilander said of his exit. "I knew it would happen some day, but not this year. I thought I was in good condition."

Chesnokov, whose game is almost identical to Wilander's, was too steady from the baseline for the Swede as almost every point in the two-hour, 14-minute match was a long rally with both players running down everything.

"I just felt I couldn't do anything today," Wilander said. "I really didn't know what to do. I felt I was just hitting the ball to wherever he was. I couldn't move him around."

In another early match Saturday, the women's no. 13 seed, Canada's Carling Bassett, became the tournament's first quarterfinalist when she stopped Mercedes Paz of Argentina 6-4, 2-6, 6-0.

On Sunday, Lendl will play West Germany's Damiir Keretic, while Navratilova will meet 18-year-old Laura Garrone, a junior world champion from Italy and the author of one of Friday's upsets.

Of the 32 players — 16 men and 16 women — seeded at the start of the season's first Grand Slam tournament Monday, 20 remained before the start of Saturday's play.

Rahal wins

Indy 500

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (R) — American Bobby Rahal won the 70th running of the Indianapolis 500-mile race Saturday in a March Cosworth.

Kevin Cogan of the United States was second, and two-time Indy-500 winner Rick Mears, also an American, was third.

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Cinema RAGHADAN

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Death toll from Colombo bomb blasts rises to 36

COLOMBO (R) — The death toll from two bomb explosions Friday, blamed by the government on Tamil separatists, rose Saturday to 36, with one more fatality reported in Colombo and eight more in eastern Sri Lanka.

An National Security Ministry spokesman said a landmine that exploded next to four army vehicles in Trincomalee district killed 21 soldiers and five civilians travelling inside.

Twelve soldiers and two civilians were wounded in the blast.

Residents in the northern guerrilla stronghold of Jaffna said Saturday the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the strongest rebel group, had put up posters claiming responsibility for the attack.

The landmine blew up a few minutes after a bomb ripped through a food and soft drinks processing plant in Colombo. The ministry spokesman said Saturday it killed 10 workers and wounded 50.

The bomb at the Ceylon Cold Stores Plant, which arrived in a lorry carrying empty bottles from Jaffna, ripped off the factory roof and shattered windows one kilometre away.

Security sources said the firm, close to army headquarters, had been warned by police two days earlier that guerrillas had picked it as a target.

They added that they suspected that the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of students or the

Tamil Eelam Army, both guerrilla organisations, planted the bomb. President Junius Jayewardene, speaking hours after the blasts, said it was impossible for the security forces to provide protection throughout the country against Tamil guerrillas.

More than 3,000 people have been killed in the past three years during the guerrilla campaign to set up a separate Tamil state in the north and east of the island.

Armed police and riot squads Friday threw a cordon around a factory.

Thousands of people who converged there jostled and fought to get a close look at the blasted food and soft drinks factory as fire engines and ambulances screeched to a halt to put out an ensuing fire and rush the injured to hospital.

"I was stunned by the noise and saw smoke rising out of the premises," said Mohammad Issadeen, a company guard.

The blast, which ripped through the factory housing the bottling plant, was heard 4.5 kilometres away. It shook nearby buildings and shattered windows of houses and a tourist hotel.

In Fort, Colombo's financial district 1.6 kilometres away, office

workers streamed onto streets blocking traffic and crowding roads on hearing the explosion. Clouds of smoke could be seen several miles away.

Offices in Slave Island, site of the factory, closed minutes after the blast and workers rushed home amid fears of more bombs in the area.

A lorry in which the bomb exploded was a total wreck.

Issadeen said he rushed inside and searched among the debris.

"The whole place was as if a giant hand had ripped it apart," he said. He dug out four charred bodies and helped to load the injured into ambulances.

"It was a horrible sight. I saw parts of bodies — legs, bones, hands spread all over, some hanging about 20 feet up from the shattered roof," he said adjusting his blood-splattered shirt.

Another company worker, L.C. Chandrapala, said about 150 people were on the premises. He was in the rest room when he heard a loud noise.

"My first reaction was to run towards a nearby lake for cover. When I turned to look, I found the noise had come from our factory," he said.

Witnesses said there was chaos and screaming. "Women were shouting and running here and there. Some of them staying in nearby houses fainted," said one man as he rushed to console victims.

Poll says Thatcher would lose election

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher would be removed from office if an election were held Saturday, a Gallup poll suggests.

The nationwide poll, conducted for the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) television programme "Newsnight," was the first in recent months to show the Socialist Labour Party with enough support to gain an overall majority in the House of Commons.

It gave Labour 38.5 per cent of the vote, compared with 30.6 per cent for Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative Party and 28.8 per cent for the centrist Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance. Minor parties received the remaining 2.1 per cent.

Translated into parliamentary seats, such a vote split would give Labour an overall majority of 16 in the 650-seat House of Commons, according to a computer analysis of the survey shown on the Friday night news programme.

It showed Labour winning 333 seats, the Conservatives 241, the SDP-Liberal Alliance 51 and others 25. The socialists, therefore, would form the next government, and Labour leader Neil Kinnock would become prime minister.

The poll's statistical margin of error was not stated.

Mrs. Thatcher, who came to power in 1979, was re-elected to a second term in June 1983, and she does not have to call another election before June 1988.

The Conservatives have brushed aside their consistently poor showing in recent opinion polls to traditional mid-term voter dissatisfaction.

U.S. may export unapproved drugs

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Congress is considering several bills that would allow the export of drugs that have not been approved for domestic use — legislation that would end the United States' exclusive ban on such exports.

The Senate passed a bill on May 14 to allow the export of unapproved new drugs to countries which have adequate systems for regulating pharmaceuticals or which particularly need the drugs to treat specific diseases. However, it would not allow manufacturers to export drugs that have been banned in the United States.

Two bills are also being considered by the House, but no vote has been set. None of the bills will become law unless they are passed by both houses of Congress and signed by President Reagan.

A report accompanying the Senate bill pointed out that the U.S. export ban does not prevent unapproved drugs from being marketed in the Third World, since other developed countries permit the manufacture of some drugs not approved in the United States, as well as the export of those products.

"The United States, by maintaining such restrictive export requirements, is in sharp contrast to other major drug producing countries in the world where such exports are permissible subject to certain requirements," said Dr. Frank E. Young, commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in testimony before the Senate last year.

Canada, Britain and Japan all allow their manufacturers to export unapproved drugs under certain conditions, Dr. Young said.

For example, Britain issues certificates indicating that the drug being exported meets certain manufacturing standards set by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Under U.S. law, a drug cannot be distributed commercially until it has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration based on scientific evidence of its safety and effectiveness. Obtaining FDA approval of a drug usually takes many years of research and testing and costs millions of dollars. Thus, there is less incentive for manufacturers to develop drugs for diseases that are rare in the United States because the market is not large enough for them to recoup their costs.

"Applications (for marketing approval) are never even submitted to us because certain diseases are not prevalent here and, therefore, we do not need these products," Dr. Young told the Senate panel. "Although these products are not a high priority in the United States, incentives to develop them may be enhanced if U.S. companies know that export to countries where a need for these drugs exists would be permitted."

Currently, the only condition under which an unapproved drug can be exported is for testing purposes. The Senate bill would allow unapproved drugs to be exported for commercial distribution under certain restricted conditions.

The bill sets up three categories of countries to which unapproved drugs could be exported. Category one includes developed countries that have an adequate governmental health authority to approve drugs, as well as reg-

ulatory procedures governing labeling, distribution and removal of unsafe drugs from the market.

The bill establishes the following list of Category One countries, although names can later be added or deleted based on FDA recommendations: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

France carries out fresh nuclear test

WELLINGTON (R) — France has exploded another nuclear device at Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific, the fourth and largest this year, New Zealand scientists said Saturday.

They calculated the device at 20 kilotons and said it was detonated underground at 1725 GMT on Friday.

Acting Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer said: "We consider that nuclear testing by any state serves only to accelerate the arms race, and when testing takes place in our region our determination to see it end is that much greater."

Mr. Palmer, acting for Prime Minister David Lange who is on a European tour, added: "If the French government will not chance testing in metropolitan France then they must expect regional opposition when they do so in the South Pacific."

Column 100000

S. Arabia starts research on turtles

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia (R) — Environmentalists Saturday began a three-month project to count and tag marine turtles near the Saudi Arabian east coast port of Jubail. The project is one of several to be carried out by the Meteorology and Environmental Protection Administration (MEPA) on life cycle and behaviour of endangered species in the Gulf. MEPA has already begun research on dugongs, rare sea mammals threatened by pollution from oil wells damaged in the Iran-Iraq war.

6 mothers give birth to girls upon request

TOKYO (R) — Chromosome manipulation by Japanese doctors has enabled six women to give birth after artificial insemination to the girls they wanted, newspapers reported Saturday. The papers said doctors and researchers, led by Professor Ritschi Iizuka at Keio University, had improved the separation by centrifuge of "X" and "Y" chromosomes — which determine a baby's sex — in sperm. Males are associated with the "Y" chromosome and females with the "X". Prof. Iizuka was quoted as saying the purity of sperm with only an "X" chromosome exceeded 95 per cent and sometimes reached 100 per cent.

Police free maid locked up by holidaying employer

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore police said Saturday they had freed a Sri Lankan maid who had been locked in a penthouse apartment for three weeks while her boss went to the United States for a holiday. Police locksmiths freed Nimala Jayasingh, 27, after a passer-by found a letter she had thrown from the apartment. Her employer, a Singapore citizen, is not expected to return for another two weeks.

Fleas evict eviction officials

ROME (R) — Rome's legal eviction officers have been forced to vacate their own premises by an invasion of very persistent fleas, officials have said. Despite several attempts to disinfest the headquarters of officials who carry out legal evictions, the fleas have multiplied, making life so irritating that magistrates in charge ordered all work to be suspended. The magistrates said no eviction orders would be issued for a week while the premises were thoroughly disinfested.

Women jailed for throwing eggs at queen

AUCKLAND (R) — Two New Zealand women who threw eggs at Queen Elizabeth during a visit to Auckland in February were jailed for six months for assault. Deborah Leyland, 22, and Anne Thorby, 21, pleaded not guilty at a hearing last week and their lawyer said they would appeal against the sentences. District court Judge Alan Lawson gave them the maximum sentence possible for hurling the eggs as the queen was meeting schoolchildren during a walkabout.

Sleeping man proves fatal obstacle

NEW DELHI (R) — Sixteen people were killed and 37 injured when a truck overturned after swerving to avoid a man sleeping in the middle of the road, the Press Trust of India (PTI) has reported. The news agency said the victims were crowded on top of a load of logs on the truck as it sped through the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

Homosexuals win inheritance rights

COPENHAGEN (R) — Denmark has granted homosexuals and lesbian couples the same rights of inheritance as married couples. The Danish parliament voted by 78 votes to 62 in favour of a law granting inheritance rights to couples who can prove they are living together. The opposition socialist and Radical parties backed the bill while the four parties in the minority centre-right government voted against.

Indian forces brace for Sikh protests in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Security forces went on alert in New Delhi and Punjab state Saturday to head off radical Sikh protests next week on the second anniversary of an army assault on their holiest shrine, the Golden Temple.

A police spokesman said security forces from neighbouring states were in New Delhi to protect likely targets of radicals, who want to turn the north Indian state of Punjab into a separate Sikh nation called "Khalistan."

The security measures were ordered after intelligence reports warned that extremists planned attacks to mark the army's storming of Amritsar's Golden Temple on June 5, 1984, to flush out Sikh separatists. Sikh anger over the raid led to the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards.

In Punjab, a curfew was in force in a town near Amritsar to stop communal violence after Hindus tried to set Sikh shops on fire in a protest against a Sikh raid on a religious congregation.

Two people were killed in Thursday's attack in Jandiala Guru town, raising the death toll in violence in Punjab this month to 85 and further increasing tensions between the state's Sikh majority and Hindu minority.

The communal rift has become a major law-and-order problem for Punjab Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala's eight-month-old moderate Sikh Akali Dal Party

government.

Schools in Amritsar district were ordered closed this coming Monday for summer holidays, two weeks early, because of threats by Hindu teachers to boycott classes during Sikh protests.

Extremists killed three Hindu teachers in a high school near Amritsar on May 6.

In Amritsar, the hardline All India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF) threatened suicide attacks on the temple unless security forces sent in last month in a new crackdown left the shrine before June 5.

Harinder Singh Khosla, AISSF head, said in a statement suicide squads would "liberate" the shrine from security forces sent into the complex by Mr. Barnala to oust separatists.

Mr. Barnala has said he plans to withdraw the forces by Monday when the Punjab state assembly is due to meet in an emergency session.

Dissident legislators who quit Mr. Barnala's party in protest at the April 30 security forces' raid hope to topple his government, possibly by calling a no-confidence vote.

Mr. Barnala's government, reduced to a minority in the assembly after 27 legislators broke away, expects to survive the challenge with the help of opposition parties including Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party.

Cosmonauts reerect pylon

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Cosmonaut Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Soloviyov Saturday re-erected a pylon for scientific instruments on the outside of their orbiting Salyut-7 in their second space walk this week.

In a live broadcast, state television showed them fixing the same 15 metre metal pylon which they erected during their walk on Wednesday and then going a stage further by attaching an instrument package to it.

They were floating in space above the Black Sea.

The television showed a model of the pylon and said it would serve as a platform for experiments.

Eventually it was planned that the pylon would unfold automatically but on Saturday the cosmonauts erected it manually.

They checked it for vibration and then attached various transmission cables and a flat, swivelling instrument package, apparently to monitor the pylon itself rather than outside data.

The pylon, with a red light at its tip, could be seen clearly sticking out into space against the bright blue background of earth.

The cosmonauts took one hour 54 minutes to fix the pylon and instruments, they then remained outside the station making further checks.

The live broadcast was further evidence of the growing confidence of Soviet space chiefs.

17 die in U.S. bus accident

BRIDGEPORT, California (R) — At least 17 people were killed and 11 were missing after a bus carrying elderly tourists plunged into a river in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, police said.

"We've got 17 dead and 11 still missing in the river," California Highway Patrol spokesman John Gleason told Reuters Friday.

He said the bus was carrying 49 passengers from the Lake Tahoe gambling resort in Nevada to Los Angeles when it went off a winding road and dropped into a canyon in the northern California mountains.

But delegates disclosed that the ministers agreed to accept a recommendation to scrap a 20-year dream of a permanent African army in favour of an ad hoc force.

Delegates could provide few details on the composition of such a force, when it might be formed or how it would be financed on a continent with many of its nations in severe economic trouble.

Ernest Kadungure, Zimbabwe's minister of state for defence, conceded at the closing session that financing would be a "thorny issue."

The OAU meeting was held with delegates fully mindful of South Africa's May 19 raids on alleged guerrilla bases of the African National Congress (ANC) in the neighbouring countries of Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Southern African security against attacks and threats from South Africa were thus a major issue.

Pravda publishes critical U.S. letter

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party daily Pravda Saturday published a highly critical letter from the second most senior U.S. diplomat in Moscow in a further show of new frankness in the official media.

The letter from Minister-Counsellor Richard Combs, temporarily standing in for Ambassador Arthur Hartman, to Pravda Chief Editor Viktor Afanasiev condemned an article in the daily suggesting that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was behind the recent bombing of a West Berlin disco.

The text was published in full in another departure from past Soviet press practice which began earlier this week when the government daily Izvestia published a letter about the Chernobyl nuclear accident from the West German ambassador.

Complaints from foreigners have not appeared in print here before.

The Pravda article to which Mr. Combs objected was based on a report by the South Yemen News Agency ANA.

Mr. Combs said the report was disgusting but the U.S. embassy could not control what was written by the South Yemen press.

"But it is within our power to watch what is published in the pages of Pravda."

"That is why I am frankly astonished that a responsible newspaper, the organ of the ruling party of the Soviet Union, should believe these lies and give them space on its pages," he said.

The U.S. government regarded the article as an offensive attempt to score cheap propaganda points, Mr. Combs said, adding that he hoped that Afanasiev would publish a denial of these "low fantasies."

In reply, Pravda objected to Mr. Combs' undiplomatic tone and ridiculed his assertion that he could keep an eye on what Pravda published.

"Since when does the U.S. embassy consider that it has a right to encroach upon the freedom of the press and information and assume the role of a censor deciding what should and should not be published? This is not the United States," Pravda said.

Izvestia's reply to the West German ambassador was similarly direct. It said it welcomed his frankness and wanted to respond in the same way.

The new press style, which has also brought more detailed coverage of the aftermath of Chernobyl, follows strong Western criticism that Moscow was slow to give information about the April 26 Soviet power station disaster.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 976 ♠ 63 ♠ AQ75 ♠ AQ3
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ 2 ♠ ?
What action do you take?
A. — Don't hang back because he wouldn't let the opponents buy the contract at two hearts! At his first turn, he did not have the values for either a takeout double or an overcall of one spade. Now he is bidding your hand in a valiant effort to compete for the partial. Pass.
- Q2 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ KJ76 ♠ A10 ♠ J84 ♠ AKJ7
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Dble 2 ♠ 2 ♠ ?
What action do you take?
A. — You have a hand that is in a good deal better than minimum. Nevertheless, we consider chances of game remote. Partner did not have the values for a jump in diamonds, so the maximum he could have is 9 points. It is true that if he has 9 and something in hearts that will produce a second stopper, you might make three no trump. But it is far more likely that he has considerably less, in which case any move by you could get your side overboard. Pass.
- Q3 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K8 ♠ K107652 ♠ AK943
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 ♠ ?
What do you bid now?
A. — Partner doesn't have a very good hand — he did not redouble. However, he does have club length and probable diamond shortness that case, you have little defense against any opening contract but your offensive possibilities are excellent. We suggest a leap to five clubs. First, you might make that contract. Secondly, you make it very difficult for the opponents to judge the potential of the hand.
- Q4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AQ ♠ AK1063 ♠ KQ76 ♠ AK
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 NT Pass
What action do you take?
A. — You described your powerful hand perfectly with your jump shift. Partner heard this, and decided that three no trump was your best contract. Since his hand is unknown to you, what makes you think that there is a better contract? Pass.
- Q5 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AK87 ♠ 63 ♠ 876 ♠ AK84
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 1 NT Pass
What action do you take?
A. — Whether you play that partner's response shows 5-9 points or 9-11, you have no problem. You have a minimum hand and is no known fit. Those hands are best played in no trump. Pass.
- Q6 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ AK98 ♠ AJ ♠ 5 ♠ KQJ654
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
A. — While partner's strength is still undetermined, you do know that he has long hearts. Therefore, there is no point in rebidding your clubs — hearts should be an adequate trump suit. Raise to four hearts. If he has a good hand, he can start a slam probe.

U.S. asked Australia to consider resettling Barbie

CANBERRA (R) — The United States asked Australia in 1952 to consider resettling Klaus Barbie — the former Gestapo chief in the French city of Lyons — and Canberra said then it was considering the request, according to opposition Senator Peter Baume.

Sen. Baume also told the Senate that documents he had obtained showed Britain asked Australia in 1948 to "go easy" on Nazi criminals. He described the request as outrageous.

The leader of the opposition Liberal Party in the Senate presented the documents to the upper house on Thursday. He said he obtained them under Australia's Freedom of Information Act.

Barbie, known as the butcher of Lyons, headed the Gestapo in the city from 1942 to 1944. He is now in prison in France awaiting trial for war crimes after being expelled from Bolivia three years ago.

Baume tabled a letter written by the Australian immigration attaché in Bonn to the U.S. army in June 1952. He said it was found by Australian embassy officials in Washington in 1983 in an intelligence file compiled by the army.

Barbie was not named in the letter found in his file but it indicated that Australia was considering his resettlement.

It said in part: "In cases such as those you proposed in our discussion would come under a special category. In this connection, representations have been made to Australia, the special conditions mentioned by you being placed before them. I am now awaiting a decision and you will be informed when it is known."

Canberra's decision was not in the documents but apparently Australia refused the U.S. request or the United States decided South America would be a safer haven.

Sen. Baume presented the documents during a debate in which he called for an inquiry into the entry into Australia of alleged Nazi war criminals and collaborators during the post-war

Admirers to pay tribute to memory of Monroe

LOS ANGELES (R) — Admirers will pile bunches of flowers Sunday on a pink marble tomb in the centre of Los Angeles.

They will be paying tribute to the memory of a film star hailed as Hollywood's sex symbol — Marilyn Monroe, who would have been 60 years old Sunday and entitled to collect a pension.

Even in death, Monroe is allowed no peace.

Nearly 24 years after she died on Aug. 5, 1962, of what the Los Angeles coroner's office said was a self-inflicted overdose of barbiturates — suicide — her death is still the centre of rumours, speculation and rewards.

Books have linked her romantically to President John Kennedy and his brother Robert Kennedy, both of whom were assassinated, rewards of up to \$100,000 have been offered for her diary and a private detective has said she was killed by a dis-

sent faction of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) because she had heard of a CIA plot to kill Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Los Angeles police, who investigated Monroe's death at her home, have unsealed their file on her. "It shows, pure and simple, death was caused by suicide, not by some devious plot by underworld leaders or government officials," said the city's police chief, Daryl Gates.

But the last words of Marilyn Monroe, spoken to late British actor Peter Lawford, according to the police file, were: "Say goodbye to Pat (then Lawford's wife and a sister of the Kennedys), say goodbye to Jack (President Kennedy) who was known as Jack, and say goodbye to yourself because you're a nice guy."

The information came from Lawford, who said Monroe had telephoned him. According to the police report, Lawford said Mon-

roe sounded sleepy, but he was dissuaded by his agent from going to her house after her telephone went dead.

A private detective, Milo Speriglio, who wrote a book called Marilyn Monroe: Murder Cover-Up, and who said he had evidence of a CIA plot, claimed the information released by the police was a joke.

He said the police had interviewed Robert Kennedy about Monroe's death, but that the transcript of the interview was not included in the documents.

The Monroe mystique continues. She has been the subject of more than 30 biographies, a Broadway play, After The Fall, by her third and last husband, Arthur Miller, an Italian opera, Marilyn, and there is still a worldwide Marilyn Monroe Fan Club, which has more than 2,000 members.

The calendar photograph of Monroe posing in the nude has become a collector's item. Monroe, broke at the time, received \$50 for posing. The calendar sold eight million copies.

Asked by a reporter if she had anything on while posing, she replied: "Yes, the radio."



Marilyn Monroe

Manila recovers \$250m of Marcos wealth

MANILA (R) — A senior government official has said the Philippines had recovered at least five billion pesos (\$250 million) worth of property owned in the country by deposed President Marcos.

Jovito Salonga, chairman of a commission tracking Marcos' wealth, told reporters after arriving from the United States that the government had finalised in California a compromise settlement with Filipino businessman Jose Yao Campos, who had admitted fronting for Marcos.

He said Campos turned over land titles and company shares worth more than five billion pesos which he held for Marcos.

"We have plenty of properties already in our possession. In one compromise settlement alone, we probably have more than five billion pesos. And there will be more forthcoming," he said.

Campos was granted immunity from prosecution after he volunteered information on Marcos' assets.

Mr. Salonga said a number of Marcos associates had approached him for a settlement but he declined to name them.

Mr. Salonga, who was away for more than two weeks, added that the government hoped to recover soon Marcos' property in New Jersey valued at about 30 million pesos (\$1.5 million).

"There is already cash that is recoverable but that is not too much. The properties will be liquidated and we hope to be able to recover between 20 and 30 million pesos."

He also said he received "encouraging reports" on Marcos' Swiss accounts. He said he hoped to be able to get shortly a partial revelation of the bank deposits of Marcos, his wife Imelda and associates.

He said he believed the bulk of Marcos' wealth, which the commission earlier estimated at between \$5 and \$10 billion, was in Swiss accounts which Bern authorities have frozen.